

Introduction to XVT Development for C++

# Introduction to XVT Development for C++

Presented by Steve Hansen August 16-17, 1993

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## Section 1

### Course Introduction

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### Our First XVT-Design++ Application

- \* A small example application:
  - Layout GUI objects
  - Set connections
  - Write action code
  - Generate files
  - Build application
- Larger applications can be just as easy to implement

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

### How the Course is Structured

- \* Section 1 Course Introduction and GUI Concepts
- Section 2 XVT-Design++ Overview
- \* Section 3 Planning an XVT-Design++ Application
- ❖ Section 4 Building an XVT-Design++ Application
- \* Section 5 Building an XVT-Design++ Application
- \* Section 6 Completing an XVT-Design++ Application

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### What This Section Covers

- \* XVT and Course Introduction
- \* Review of GUI Concepts
  - Event-Driven Programming
  - Approaches to Portability
  - Native Window System Differences
- Terminology and Typographical Conventions
- Course Example Application

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### Who and What is XVT?

- eXtensible Virtual Toolkit
- \* XVT provides portable, easy to use GUI development environments
- C and C++ based products are available for 7 different operating systems and 30 hardware platforms
- \* XVT was founded by Marc Rochkind in 1988
- \* XVT is headquartered in Boulder CO and currently has a full-time staff of over 100

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### Course Goals

- Oriented toward introductory process and techniques (not an advanced class)
- Learn the basics of portable GUI programming in C++
- Gain familiarity with XVT-Design++ and XVT++
  - Practical approaches to XVT programming
  - Not intended to cover all aspects of XVT products
  - · Functionality that's used most often
- Teach you to help yourselves through documentation and example code
- \* Cross-platform understanding and appreciation

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### Course Prerequisites

- Intermediate C++ programming expertise (advanced preferred - not required)
- Good familiarity with use of target GUI platform(s)
- No GUI programming experience required (but certainly helpful)

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### Typical Daily Course Schedule

- \* Two sessions per day, from:
  - 8:30 to 12:30
  - 1:30 to 5:30
- \* There will be 1 or 2 breaks during each session

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### Course Materials

- \* Provided
  - "Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development" Course Notes
  - Student Background Information Form
  - Course Evaluation Form
- \* Recommended
  - XVT-Design++ Volume 1 Using XVT-Design++
  - XVT-Design++ Volume 2 XVT++ 2.0 Class Library Reference
  - XVT-Design++ Quick Reference Guide

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### Review of GUI Concepts

- \* Line Output-Oriented Applications
- \* GUI (Event-Driven) Programming
- \* Portable GUI Applications
- \* Differences between Native GUI Systems

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# Line Output-Oriented Applications

- \* Application logic, not the user, is in control
  - Inflexible interaction user must follow program
  - Control flow clear from examining source code
- \* I/O is a stream of characters
  - Only one type of input or output (characters)
  - Limited to prompt-response style (screen) interfaces
  - Ability to pipe input or output (ie easier testing)
- \* Output model: row-column character grid
  - Effectively an extension of the typewriter

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# Line Output-Oriented Applications (cont.)

- \* Interface code often intertwined with application code
  - Simple I/O code often scattered throughout program
  - Output lines may scroll off screen
- Can not produce accurate graphical images
- Limited character attributes: character, color, highlighting/blinking

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### The GUI Desktop Metaphor

- \* The Virtual Desktop
  - Screen == Desktop
  - Application programs == Work tools
  - Work organized via files and folders/directories
- Working with multiple applications
  - Overlapping applications
  - Resizing of application windows (each with multiple views of work)
  - GUI object drag and drop actions

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### **GUI** Applications

- \* User, not application logic, is in control
  - Application structured to respond to user interaction (events)
  - · Application control flow depends on user interaction
- \* Several types of input events to handle
  - Keyboard, mouse, scrolling, window system, etc.
  - · User can directly manipulate application components
- \* All output is rendered graphically
  - Text as well as graphical shapes
  - Pixel-based direct access of screen locations
  - High-quality graphical symbols and images possible
  - Visual interface usually represents a virtual desktop

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### **GUI** Applications (cont.)

- \* Interface code separate from application code
- Desktop metaphor requires ability to redraw information at any time
  - Stacking order changes
  - Window size or location changes
  - Menus and dialogs may invalidate regions of windows
- GUI layout information can be separated from source code

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### The GUI is Event-Driven

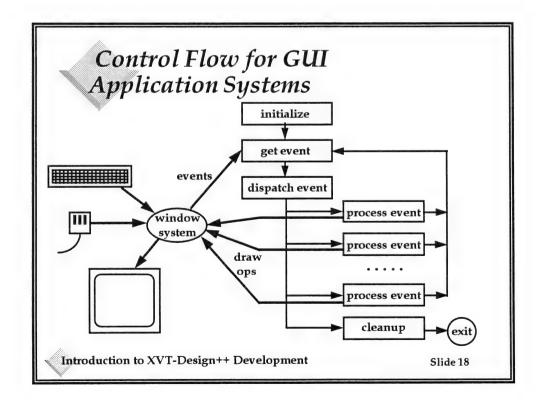
- ❖ Events drive GUI applications
  - Events are generated by the user, the application, or the system
- \* The application is structured to respond to events
  - Classes define member functions for the events they respond to
  - The XVT++ Class Library provides virtual member functions
  - You will write application-specific member functions

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# GUI Event-Driven Program Structure

- All input events come in through a central event fetching and dispatching loop
- \* Events can occur in any order at any time
- The control flow is not discernible from the code
- These issues will be discussed in more detail in Section 3

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### GUI Programs for Multiple Window Systems

- Window systems provide developers with many features
  - Similar in the interpretation and implementation of typical GUI objects windows, dialogs, menus, controls, etc.
  - Different programming models such as callbacks
  - Different data structures, functional API, and terminology
- \* Different window systems present information in different graphical forms and with different screen organizations
  - Different interface look-and-feel
  - Important consideration while designing the GUI
- \* How should a developer design an application to work on different window systems?

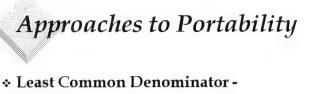
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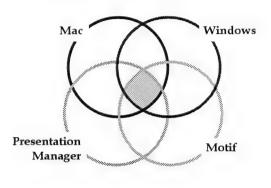
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### Approaches to Portability

- Least Common Denominator -
  - · Two platforms may have a lot in common
  - Seven platforms will have very little if anything in common
- Emulation -
  - Implement code which imitates the behavior of the native systems
  - · Limited in that window systems are always changing
- \* Abstraction -
  - The XVT approach
  - · A thin layered API
  - Applications are truly native

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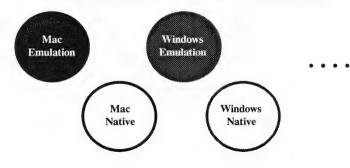


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### Approaches to Portability (cont.)

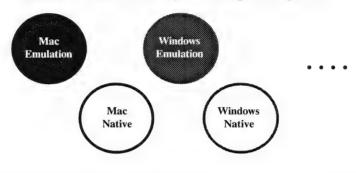
- Emulation implement code which imitates the behavior of the native systems
  - what if the emulated native system changes or improves?



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### Approaches to Portability (cont.)

- Emulation implement code which imitates the behavior of the native systems
  - what if the emulated native system changes or improves?



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# Approaches to Portability - Abstraction

- \* Advantages of abstraction:
  - An application written with XVT-Design++ is a native application
  - You get a truly native look and feel (not emulated)
  - You can easily conform to the native style guidelines and meet compliance criteria
  - Any changes in the native look and feel are easier to track
  - There is no danger of look and feel copyright violations
  - Layered API still provides access to the native GUI toolkit
  - Raising the level of abstraction provides an easier to use API

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### Portable Event Dispatching

- \* XVT++ classes represent the GUI object types
- XVT defines which events are applicable for each type of GUI object
- XVT++ virtual member functions defined for each event type
- You override event handling member functions to change default behavior

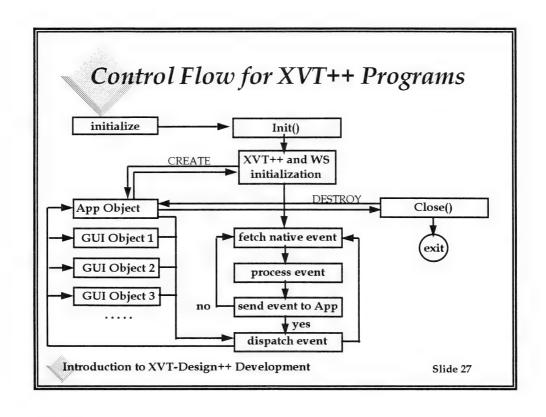
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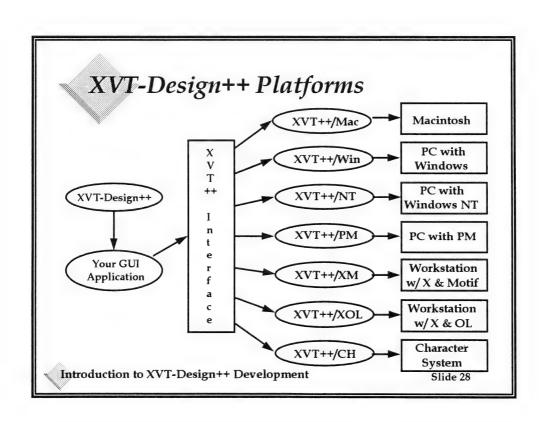
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# Portable Event Dispatching (cont.)

- \* Inside the XVT++ class library -
  - Events are received from the native event dispatcher
  - XVT++ sends the event to the GUI object within which it occurred
- \* At the XVT-Design++ application level -
  - The appropriate event handling member function processes the event

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### XVT-Design++ and Portability

- \* Using XVT-Design++ doesn't guarantee that every program will be portable it allows it to be
- \* The XVT-Design++ application developer must be aware of portability issues:
  - Compiler and OS differences
  - Window system differences
  - User interface style-guideline differences
- Prototype on each target platform early in your development, so you're not surprised

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# Different Native GUI Platforms - Overview

- \* Application object
- \* Menubar placement
- \* Window Manager influences
- Application startup and termination
- \* Available screen real estate and resolution

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### The XVT Application Object

- The task window is better thought of as the application object
  - It represents the application itself
- \* May or may not be a physical window
  - Depending on the platform
- The task window processes events relevant to the application object
- Provides a portable solution to a very non-portable issue

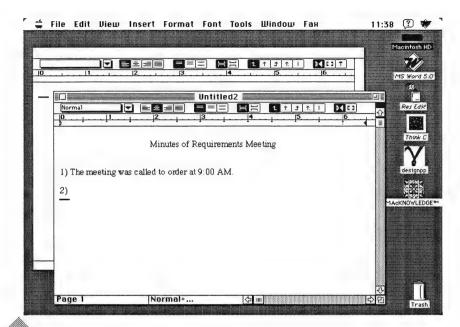
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### Macintosh and Character

- \* No Task Window
- \* Menubar-per-screen
  - Fixed location
- \* Minimal visual effect at startup menubar change
- Closing all windows does not terminate the application
- Limited screen real estate
  - CH or Mac Classic
- Unique aspects
  - Macintosh "Option" Key
  - Single button mouse
  - Mouseless operation in CH is common

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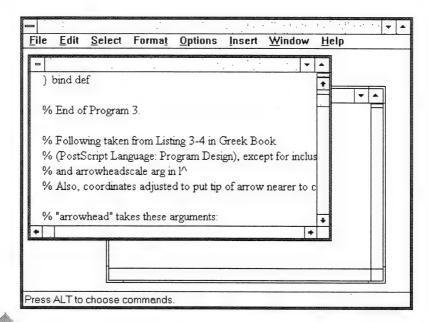


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### MS-Windows, NT & OS/2

- \* Visible Task Window
  - Appears on startup
  - Disappears on termination
- \* Menubar-per-task window
- \* Variety of screen resolutions
- \* Unique aspects
  - Multiple Document Interface MDI (Windows)
  - Threaded Processes (OS/2 and NT)
  - Reserved help function key (F1)

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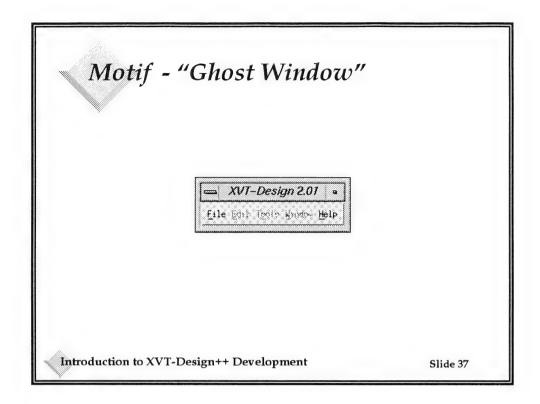


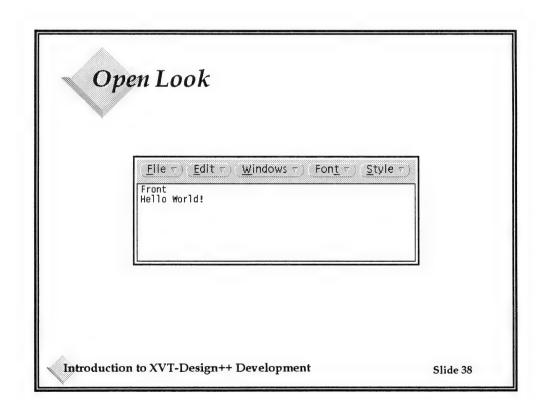
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### **Motif & OPEN LOOK**

- \* No visible Task Window
  - "Ghost window" appearance on X platforms
- \* Menubar-per-window
- Style guidelines recommend termination when last window is closed
- \* Large, high-resolution monitors
- Unique aspects
  - Variety of user-configurable window managers
  - Focus models
    - · (ie: focus follows pointer vs. set focus via mouse click)
  - Pinned menus (OPEN LOOK)
  - 3 button mouse

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# XVT C++ Cross-Platform Development Tools

- \* XVT-Design++ (GUI Builder)
  - Design++/Win
- Microsoft Windows
- Design++/NT
- Microsoft Windows/NT
- Design++/PM
- IBM OS/2 Presentation Manager
- Design++/CH
- Character Displays (UNIX, DOS, VMS)
- Design++/Mac
- Apple Macintosh
- Design++/XM
- OSF/Motif (UNIX, etc.)
- Design++/XOL
- Sun OPEN LOOK
- \* XVT++ Class Library
- \* XVT Portability Toolkit (PTK)

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### XVT-Design++

- Preferred gateway to XVT++ programming
- \* Accelerates the construction of cross-platform XVT++ applications
- \* Speeds interface layout and development
- Generates GUI structure code and portable GUI resources
- \* Enables rapid prototyping and GUI testing

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### XVT++ Class Library

- Source-form C++ class hierarchy
  - Classes and Member Functions
  - Platform-independent
- \* Layered on top of the XVT Portability Toolkit

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### XVT Portability Toolkits

- \* Implemented as platform-specific libraries
- \* Written in C
- Toolkit Application Programmer's Interface (API)
  - Functions, Macros, Defined Constants, Data Types
- Universal Resource Language (URL)
- Compiler for URL (CURL)
- \* Other tools
  - ERRSCAN
  - CCHELP

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### Terminology - C++ vs XVT++

- GUI Object a component of the interface; usually visible on the screen; includes menus, windows, dialogs, and controls
- C++ Object an instance of a class; an instance of a C++ structure that encapsulates both data and code
- GUI Container usually a window or dialog; these may contain other GUI objects, such as controls, graphics, or text
- C++ Container an instance of a C++ class for maintaining collections of objects of arbitrary type

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### Terminology

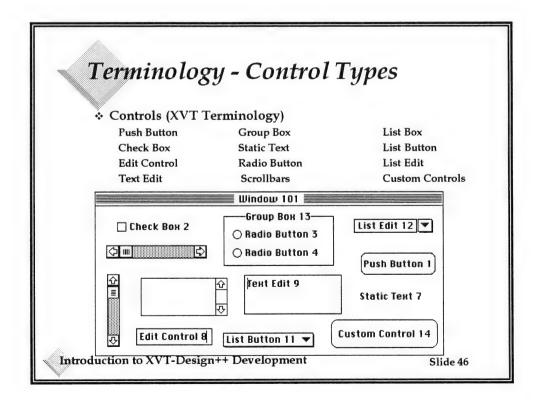
- Resources external definitions of the attributes and layout of the GUI objects
- Menubar contains menus which contain menu items; usually at the top of the screen or a window
- Window a rectangular portion of the screen that is used to display or gather information
- Child Window positioned, moved, and contained within another (parent) window
- Dialog a rectangular portion of the screen that is used to gather information using controls

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### Terminology

- Controls specific GUI objects for gathering user input; come in a variety of styles
- \* Widgets an X-Windows term for a GUI object
- Events occurrences within the GUI that the application should respond to; may be initiated by the user, application, or system
- \* Tags may be related to an event; in general, a location within a source file for action code
- Action Code any code entered at a Tag; for example, the code that will respond to an event

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### Typographical Conventions

- ❖ Code
  - This typestyle represents code, including expressions and names of classes, member functions, attributes, and variables
- Filenames
  - Plain type is used for filenames and file extensions
- \* Emphasis
  - Italics are used for emphasis and the names of documents
- Commands
  - This typestyle is used for command options within menus and dialogs
- \* TAGS
  - Capitols are used for the names of events and special tags

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### Course Example - Rationale

- Course Example objective is to build and browse an employee database
- Process design, implement, and compile an XVT GUI application
- Purpose see how the XVT-Design++ and XVT++ functionality is used
- \* Source code will be provided

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### Course Example - Purpose

- Introduction to the <u>process</u> of building XVT++ applications
  - using XVT-Design++ and the XVT++ Class Library
- \* Insights into -
  - The advantages of each XVT product
  - Where to best apply their strengths
- \* Introduction to -
  - XVT++ programming techniques
  - Application structuring

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### Course Example - Purpose (cont.)

- Examine example code which implements typical GUI functionality
- Have a working XVT++ application as a model for future reference
- \* Some disclaimers:
  - Not all aspects of XVT-Design++ or the XVT++ Class Libraries will be exercised
  - Application is not intended to be a reference example of interface layout or usability
  - Non-GUI functionality (the application part) supports the GUI programming in this exercise

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### Course Example - Methodology

Requirements Section 3 Section 3 Plan and Design Sections 4 - 6

**Develop and Test** 

Section 6 Complete and Build

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### Course Example - Methodology

- \* Discuss the Course Example's need for some functionality
- \* Discuss the GUI concept associated with the need
- Present the XVT-Design++ features that support
- ❖ Use XVT-Design++ to layout the GUI objects
- Discuss how to manage the GUI object
- ❖ Use XVT-Design++ to implement the action code
- \* Present any API details related to the topic

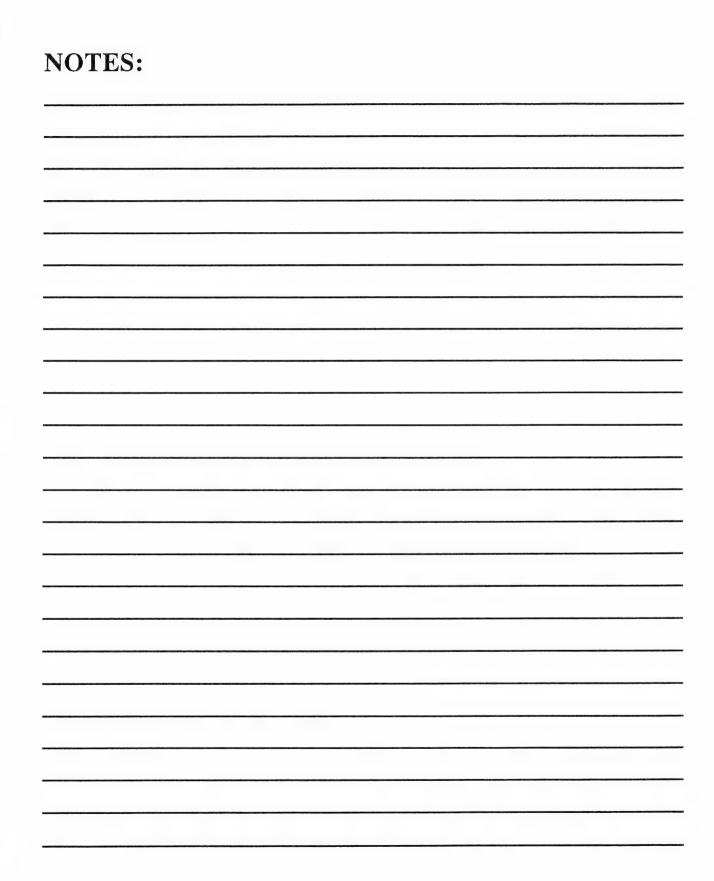
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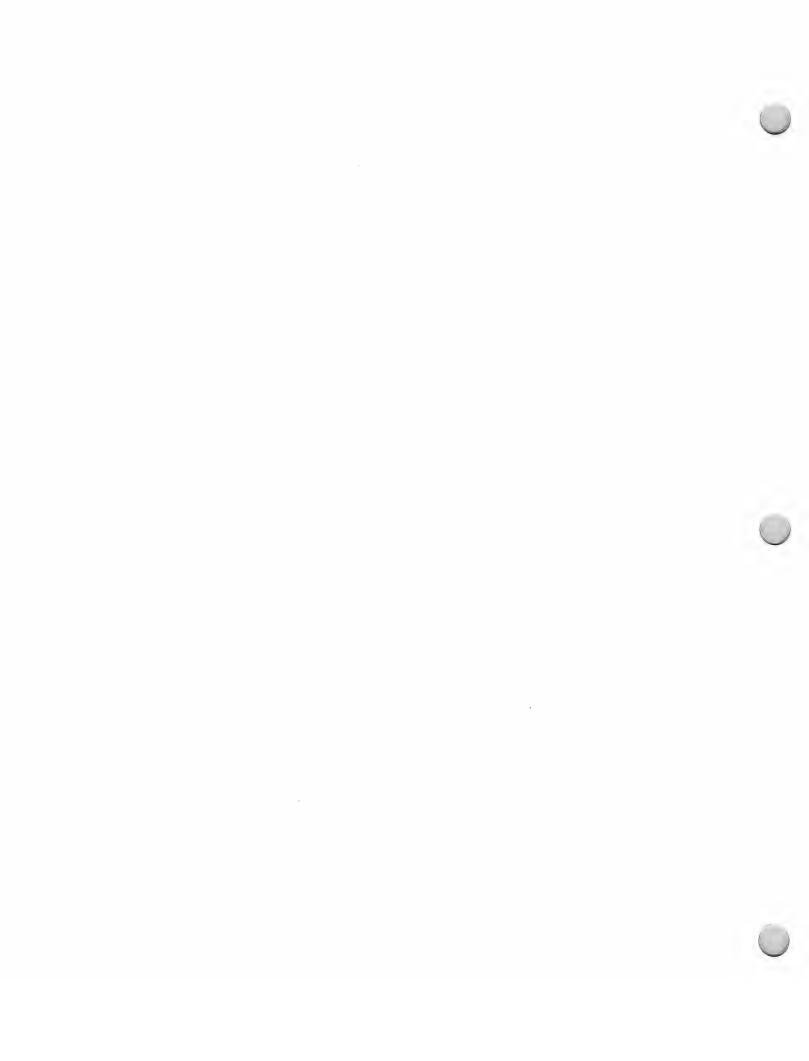
### Course Introduction

Questions on why we are here or what we will be doing?

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NOTES:		





### Section 2

# A Tour of XVT-Design++

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### What This Section Covers

- \* The Role of XVT-Design++
- \* The Role of You as Programmer
- XVT-Design++ Introduction
  - Resource Layout and Edits
  - Setting Connections between GUI Objects
  - TestMode and Prototyping
  - Program Code and Makefile Generation
  - Advanced Features
- \* Building a First Application hello.prj
- Using XVT-Design++ and XVT++ Together

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### The Role of XVT-Design++

- \* Accelerates the development of the GUI portion of XVT++ applications
- Provides default action code for selected GUI object tags
- \* Facility for assigning action code to a GUI object's tags a higher level programming technique
- Particularly good for rapid prototyping of user interface design options
  - \* Connections and TestMode

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### The Role of XVT-Design++ (cont.)

- Generates portable application structure code and program resources, and hides the details of this code
- Automatically generates platform-specific makefiles
- Useful to have XVT-Design++ on each target platform
  - · Speeds interface layout creation, testing, and changes
  - Not available for Design++/CH

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### The Role of XVT++

- \* Abstraction of many native GUI toolkits
  - portable application programmer interface (API)
  - portable external resource model (URL)
- \* Layered API provides native GUI toolkit access
  - Use XVT++ portable functionality wherever possible
  - Use non-portable functionality as needed (sparingly)
  - Non-interference with native GUI look-and-feel
- \* Provides classes that represent GUI object types
  - Provides member functions for object management and manipulation
  - Provides virtual event handler member functions for applicable events

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### Role of You as GUI Programmer

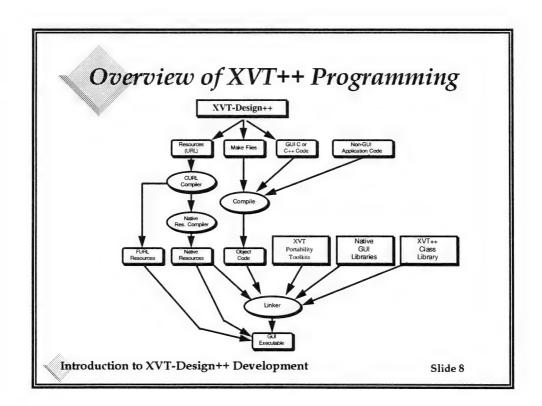
- Define relationship between the GUI and the application code
- \* Design and layout user interface
  - Window, dialog, and menu contents
  - Interactions between them
  - Enforce #define naming conventions
- Build application code database access and update, application logic
- Successively refine action code for events, adding links to application code

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### Summary of Roles

- ❖ What XVT-Design++ does for you
  - Provides framework source code
  - \* Provides source code for connections
  - Generates source code files, URL files, and makefiles
- \* What you do with XVT-Design++
  - Define and layout GUI objects
  - Set connections and use TestMode to prototype
  - Implement additional action code
- \* What you do outside of XVT-Design++
  - Write container classes and custom controls
  - Implement non-GUI code
  - Compile and build the application

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### Key XVT-Design++ Concepts

- \* Graphical, interactive interface layout
- XVT-Design++ is implemented using XVT products
- GUI object attributes
  - Geometry, Title, Resource ID, etc.
- \* Tags place holders for action code fragments
  - Event Tags for each type of input the GUI may receive
  - Special Tags ancillary code related to the GUI objects
- Context the combination of a Module, Object, and Tag that specifies the identify of / location for an action code fragment

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### Key XVT-Design++ Concepts (cont.)

- Connections
  - Relationships between GUI objects
  - · Code generated for the connection
- \* TestMode
  - Evaluate GUI object layout and connections
- Action Code Editor (ACE)
  - Used to attach and write code fragments
  - Generated framework code
- Source code generation
  - C++ GUI code
  - External resource file (URL)
  - Makefiles

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### XVT-Design++ Project Files

- \* A project file contains all information about your XVT-Design++ application
  - Project attributes
  - GUI Object Layout and Attributes
  - Action code
- \* Default project file names end in .prj
- File format binary and portable
- \* Multiple projects can be edited at the same time
- Convert XVT-Design project files to XVT-Design++ (and vice versa)

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### Layout Editor

- \* Direct manipulation of GUI objects
  - "Paint" your GUI interface
- \* WYSIWYG layout
  - GUI objects: windows, dialogs, and controls
  - · Menubars and strings have their own editors
- Layout convenience features
  - Alignment grid
  - Alignment and sizing options
- Generates portable resources with a portable layout feature

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### Other XVT-Design++ Functionality

- Container Classing feature
- Custom Controls
- \* Entering Help text via the application HELP tag
- Creation Order Editor
- \* Strings Editor
- \* User Data
- \* PFA Utility Functions

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### XVT-Design++ GUI Objects

- \* Primary GUI Objects: Containers
  - Application Object (Task Window)
  - Windows
  - Dialogs
- Secondary GUI Objects
  - Controls
  - Menubars
- NOTE: Secondary GUI Objects always contained by or attached to windows or dialogs

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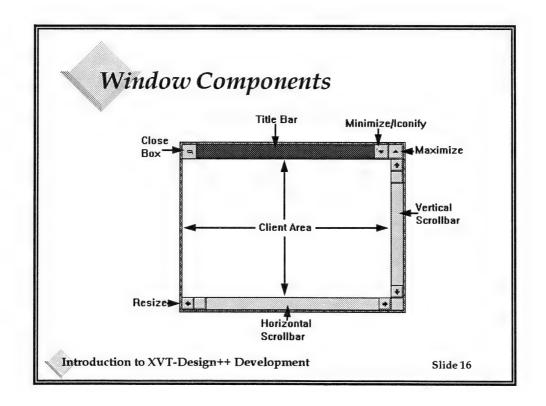
### Windows

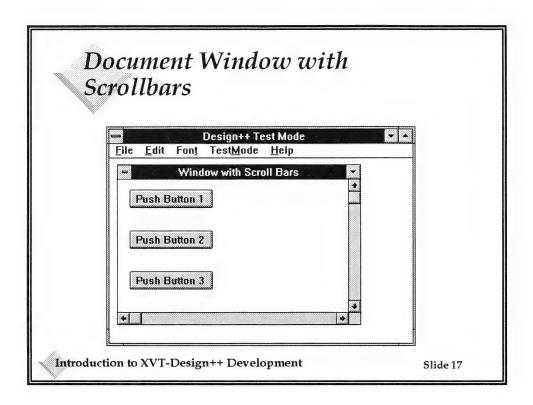
- **\*** Containers for:
  - Graphic primitives (drawing)
  - Controls
  - Text
- \* May (optionally) have an associated menubar
- Usually defined via external resources with XVT-Design++
- \* Window components

Client area Resize controls
Title bar Border scrollbars

Close box Maximize / minimize / iconify boxes

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### XVT-Design++ Window Types

- Document (title bar plus some border decorations)
- \* Plain (single) border
- \* Double border

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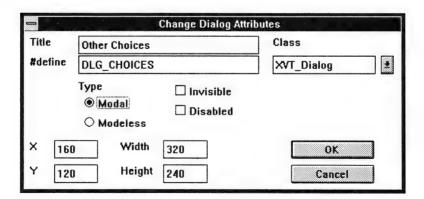
### Dialogs

- \* Containers for controls only no graphics
  - Can include icons
- Gives access to native keyboard navigation of controls
- \* Modality property
  - Modal (halts program execution until dismissed)
  - Modeless (program execution continues)
- Usually defined via external resources with XVT-Design++

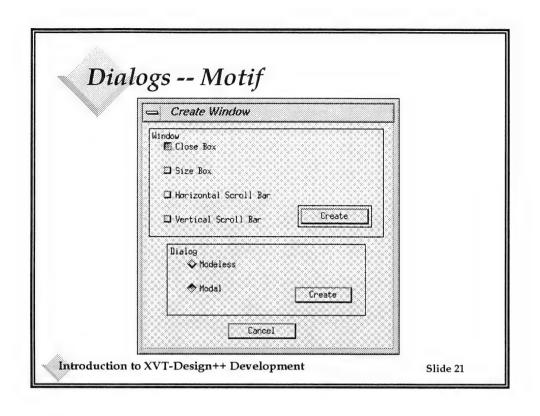
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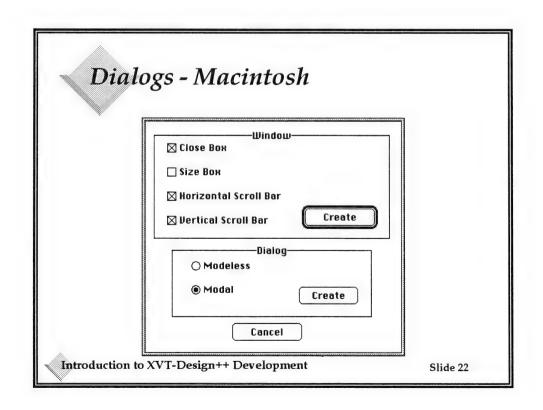
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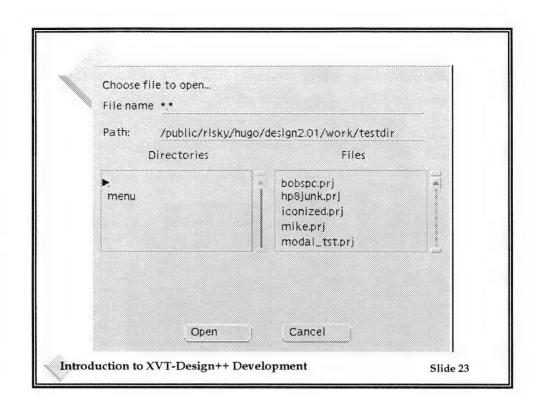
### **Dialogs**

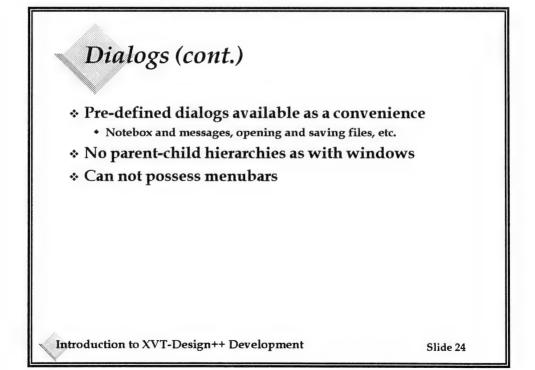


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#### **Controls**

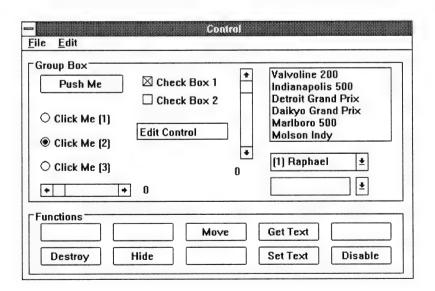
- \* Always placed within a window or dialog
- XVT-Design++ control types

push button text edit
check box list box
radio button list button
scrollbars list edit
static text group box
edit control custom control

Usually defined relative to container via external resources with XVT-Design++

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### **GUI** Object Attributes

- \* Typical attributes that can be set include:
  - + Titles
  - #define identifiers (resource ID's)
  - Geometry attributes (overrides layout)
  - Menu resource ID (for windows)
  - GUI object "classing" (more later)

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### **GUI** Object Attributes (cont.)

- \* Double-clicking on GUI objects during layout displays the attribute dialog for the GUI object
  - You also can select the Layout or Attribute push button in the ACE for the GUI object specified by the current context
- \* The attributes for the application object can be set via the Edit menu, or the Attributes... pushbutton in the ACE
- Attribute changes may not be immediately visible within XVT-Design++
- \* They will be visible within TestMode

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### Menubars

- Property of windows (not dialogs)
- Usually defined as resources via URL with XVT-Design++
- Dynamically replaceable and modifiable
- \* Menu item attributes
  - Normal, checked, disabled, separator, child (for hierarchical menus), mnemonics and accelerators
- Availability of portable "standard menus" for convenience
  - File, Edit, Help, Font/Style

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### Menu Editor

- \* Tool for interactively building hierarchical menus
  - Add menu items, separators, child menus, move items
- \* Set menu item attributes
  - Menu item text
  - #define (for menu resource ID's)
  - Mnemonics and accelerators
  - Checkable, checked, disabled
  - Separator
- \* XVT-Design++ standard menus can be used

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#### Menu Editor (cont.)

- Unlimited number of menus can be defined all will be reflected in the generated URL resource code
  - Possible to create menus that your program will assign to windows during program execution
- \* A task window default menubar is available
  - Serves as a starting point for defining an application specific menubar

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#### Connections and TestMode

- Assign symbolic connections between certain GUI object events (tags) and GUI object actions
  - ie: When this pushbutton is pressed, create this window.
- Not intended to be all-encompassing, but rather a basic tool for building simple prototypes
- \* When a connection is possible, the Connections... pushbutton in the ACE is enabled
- \* Connections can only be set for the following:
  - When the application object (task window) is created
  - When a pushbutton is pressed
  - When a menu item is selected

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### Connections and TestMode (cont.)

- \* Actions that can be performed:
  - Create a user-defined GUI object (window or dialog)
  - Create a predefined XVT-Design++ dialog
  - Close a GUI object
  - No connection
- Connect to GUI object:
  - List of available containers
  - List of predefined XVT-Design++ dialogs
- C++ code for the connection is inserted into the GUI object's tag

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### Connections and TestMode (cont.)

- Connections can be exercised via TestMode
- \* To get started in TestMode:
  - Set a connection to the CREATE event tag for the application object (task window), or...
  - Set a connection to at least one menu item in the application object (task window) menubar
  - Otherwise, TestMode cannot bootstrap itself!
- \* TestMode does not exercise source code

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

# Connections and TestMode - Removing Connections

- Once established, the generated code for the connection can be removed and the connection will still exist within TestMode
  - Why? Connections are implemented internally via a simple symbolic interpreter, and the generated code is not used
- \* Removing a connection will *not* remove the code that XVT-Design++ placed in the GUI object tag!
- \* Removing connections is a two step process
- \* To fully remove a connection:
  - Select No Connection from within the Connection... dialog
  - AND Cut the connection code from the ACE pane

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

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### The Action Code Editor (ACE)

- \* The ACE can be used to:
  - · Create and edit action code
  - Create and modify connections
  - Invoke the layout and attributes editors
- \* The ACE can be invoked by:
  - Choosing Action Code Editor from the Tools menu
  - Choosing Edit Code from the Edit menu when the layout window for a window or dialog is active
  - Holding down the Control or Option (platform dependent) key and double-clicking on a control or layout window

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### **ACE-** The Editing Context

- The editing context is specified by three selections - the Module, Object, and Tag
- \* Module
  - Any of the applications containers
  - Any application menubar
  - The application object (task window)

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

Slide 37

### ACE- The Editing Context (cont.)

- Object Any of the GUI objects contained by the item specified by the Module list button
  - Usually controls or menu items
  - Items in the list have a prefix that indicates their type:
    - · DLG: for a dialog or WIN: for a window
    - ITEM: for menu items
    - A two letter abbreviation is used for controls, e.g. PB: for pushbuttons
- Tag Any of the tags available for the item specified by the Object list button
  - Event tags have the prefix EVNT:
  - · Special tags have the prefix SPCL:

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### ACE - The Text Editing Pane

- Used to create, modify, and examine action code fragments
- The code in the pane corresponds to the current context
- The pane can be scrolled and resized (resize the ACE window)
- Code text can be edited with Cut, Copy, and Paste commands
- \* The font and size of the code text can also be changed
- \* The code is saved as part of the project file and will be included in the generated source files

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#### **ACE-** Other Controls

- Layout brings up the layout window for the context object
- Attributes... opens the attributes dialog for the context object
- Default Code inserts the default action code supplied by XVT-Design++
- \* Revert discards any changes made to the code since the context was last selected

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#### File Generation

- \* XVT-Design++ will automatically generate:
  - URL files for the resources
  - C++ source code files to handle the GUI objects
- \* You specify:
  - The destination directory
  - The application name
  - Which files to generate
  - The filenames (if the defaults are not to your liking)

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

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### File Generation - File Types

- ♦ C++ source code files
  - A separate .cc file for each module
  - Includes member functions and code fragments
- \* Header files
  - A separate .h file for each module
- \* Resource (URL) files
- Help Text files
- Makefiles
  - Template-based
  - Custom templates
  - The XVTDIR & XVTPPDIR macros
  - External files

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

### **Building A First Application**

- \* Let's build an "Hello World" application
- \* We'll follow the example from Using XVT-Design++
- **\*** The application will include the following features:
  - The user can open any number of windows
  - Windows display a message, specified by the user
  - Messages can be changed using menu items or radio buttons within a dialog
  - The user can select the font, size, and style for the message, using the Font menu

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### The Application Building Process

- \* Start a new project and set the project attributes
- Layout the menus, windows, dialogs, and controls
- \* Set connections between GUI objects
- Use TestMode to evaluate the layout and connections (save the project)
- Write action code for event and special tags as dictated by the application requirements
- \* Generate the application (save the project)
- \* Build and run the application
- \* Return to XVT\_Design++ to edit the application

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

# Review: XVT-Design++ and XVT++ Applications

- ❖ XVT-Design++ generates:
  - Portable, XVT++ based application code
  - Portable XVT++ interface resource file (URL)
  - Platform-specific makefiles
- \* XVT++Class Library: portable API programming
  - Use XVT++ supplied classes to develop the GUI application's event handler member functions

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

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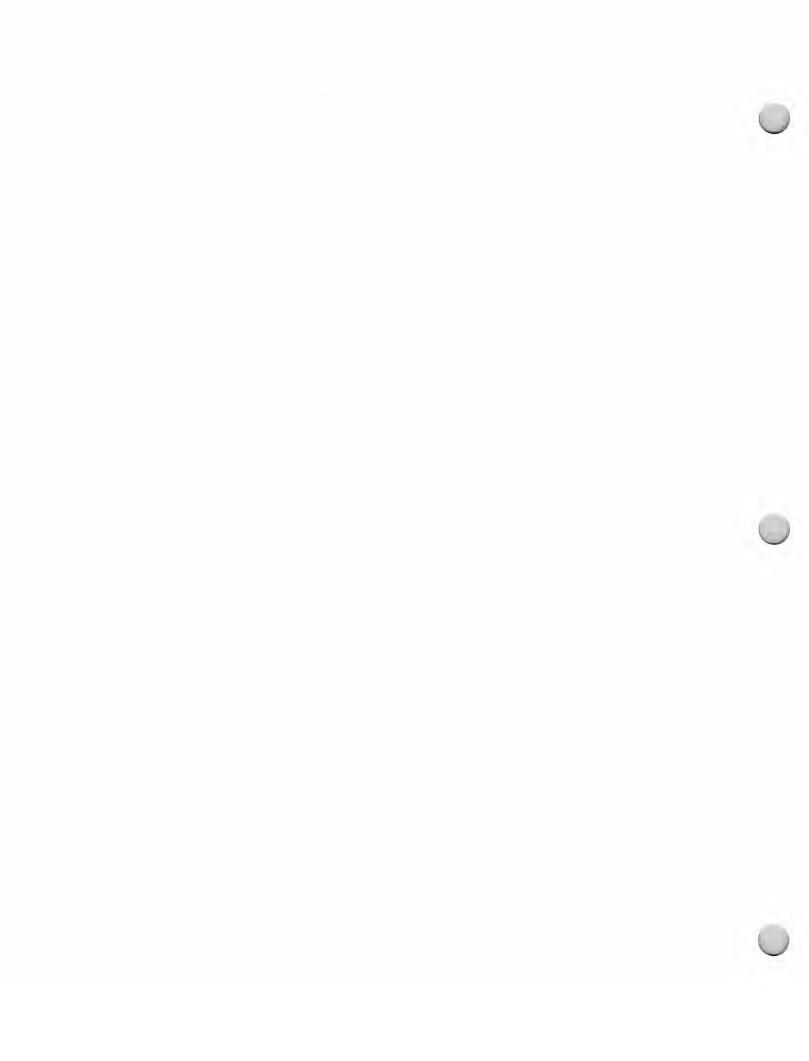
### Where do we go from here ...

 Plan and develop an XVT GUI application using both XVT-Design++ and the XVT++ Class Libraries

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

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### Section 3

# Concepts of Portable XVT-Design++ Programming

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

Slide 1

# What This Section Covers - The Best Way to Use XVT-Design++

- Planning and Architecting an Application
  - The Model-View-Controller Paradigm
  - Desktop Metaphor
  - Styles of User Interaction
- Application Management
- GUI Object Creation
- \* External Interface Resources

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

### What This Section Covers (cont.)

- \* Events
  - An Overview
  - GUI Object / Tag Pairs
  - Processing
- Course example program
  - Requirements
  - Design
  - Structure

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

Slide 3

### Planning an Application

- Iterative process of plan, coding, testing during prototyping phase
- Prototyping completed to arrive at final application concept
- Desktop metaphor application must coexist with other applications
- \* Different styles of user interaction

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### The GUI Desktop Metaphor

- \* Multiple applications may be sharing the desktop
- The desktop manager handles interactions between applications
  - Sharing of information between applications
  - Keyboard focus Where do user keyboard events go?
- \* Applications must be good citizens
  - Share screen real estate with moveable and sizeable windows
  - Share system resources (memory allocation and release)
- Manipulation of other applications may directly affect your application
  - Window system shutdown requests

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### Different Styles of User Interaction

- User manages the application via keyboard and/or mouse
  - Keyboard-only operation?
- \* Novice users
  - Menu items and dialogs
  - Help information
- Advanced users
  - Accelerators and mnemonics
  - Keyboard navigation
  - Key chords and mouse interactions
- \* GUI should be easy to learn and easy to use

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### Other Planning Considerations

- \* Each of these must also be planned for:
  - Printing
  - Portable file handling
  - Platform-specific issues
- These and other topics will be discussed in Section 6

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Slide 7

### Architecting an Application

- \* The Model-View-Controller (M-V-C) paradigm
  - Model Application Data and Methods
  - View Perspective(s) on the Model provided through the GUI
  - Controller Access control layer between View and Model
- M-V-C supports code modularization and team development
- Separates GUI Code (View and Controller) from Application Code (Model)
- GUI Applications are Event Driven
- \* Do not forget an Error Handling Policy

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### M-V-C Paradigm

- The simplest example, and one that applies to the Course Example -
  - The Model consists of
    - · the database data structures (classes)
    - · member functions for maintaining the database
  - The View and Control is provided by an XVT GUI
    - · providing the user with pictures of data records
    - controlling the updating of data records based on user inputs

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# Key Technique: Separation of GUI and Application Code

- GUI Code (View and Controller)
  - Creating / destroying / managing windows and dialogs
  - Set controls to initial values and retrieve user input
  - · Respond to relevant events via event handler member functions
  - Provide GUI data to application code in application's format
  - Degree of direct manipulation influences of separation of View and Controller
- Application Code (Model)
  - Application code not concerned with how it gets data, nor user interface look-and-feel and management

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### Key Technique: Separation of GUI and Application Code (cont.)

- The design for the interface between GUI and application code is best driven by application code needs
  - "The GUI serves the application" is a good approach
- Separation of GUI object definitions from GUI object management code is also desirable
  - Automatic if GUI objects defined via external resources (using URL) as with XVT-Design++
- \* Benefits
  - Simplifies changes to the user interface and to the application code underneath
  - Easier to split work within a programming team
  - Greatly reduces overall application code complexity

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Slide 11

### Structuring Event-Driven GUI Code

- The GUI code comprises the View and the Controller
- \* XVT-Design++ generates some of the code needed for the GUI
- \* You will write the rest of the GUI code, typically using the Action Code Editor (ACE)
- To do this, you must understand the event-driven nature of XVT-Design++ applications

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# XVT-Design++ Applications are Event-Driven Applications

- \* Application structured to respond to events
  - Member functions are called to handle events as they are received
  - Example: "Window A, you have just been resized by the user. Here is your new size."
- \* Application behavior based on the events you choose to handle
- \* Application control flow depends on the order in which events occur

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### Important: Structure Application to Relinquish Control

- One aspect of the desktop metaphor was that multiple applications coexist
- \* An application responds to an event, then gives control back to the windowing system
- \* Applications should process events in a timely fashion, or application responsiveness degrades
- \* What program is in control? Native windowing system program!

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### Error Handling

#### User Errors

- Make errors easy to recover from
- XVT++ provides several informational and error dialog facilities
- Provide user with information about the error, and what they can do to correct it
- · Avoid wordings that blame the user

#### \* System Errors

- Develop policy of handling fatal errors
- XVT++ provides error manager and error handler classes

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### Application Management

#### \* Programming teams

- Notational conventions
- XVT-Design++ projects cannot be merged programmatically
  - · Cut-and-paste to merge project files
- · Modularity based on M-V-C paradigm

#### Source control

- XVT-Design++ project files are binary format
- · Generated source files are more easily archived

#### Testing - Port Early and Often

 Test on each of the hardware platforms that the final system is to be delivered

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### How to Use XVT-Design++

- \* Two approaches to building an application:
  - Layout then Connections then Action Code
    - · Pass over all of GUI objects on each phase
    - · This is how the tutorial in the user's manual does it
  - Individual GUI Objects (Menus, Windows, Dialogs)
    - · Layout, connect, and code for each GUI object
    - · This is how we will do it in the course
- \* The choice is a matter of style, not substance
- \* For larger applications, a table can be useful

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### How to Use XVT-Design++

GUI Define/ Action

Object Layout Connect Code Filename

Menu1

Menu2

Window1

Window 2

Window 3

Dialog1

Dialog2

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### **GUI** Object Creation Methods

- Resource-based (via XVT-Design++ definitions)
  - Function call references GUI object by resource ID
  - GUI object attributes defined externally in URL file
  - Best method use XVT-Design++
- Programmatic
  - Init() member function call specifies creation parameters and initial GUI object attributes
  - No reliance on external resource definitions
  - Use of this approach has diminished because of the increased role of XVT-Design++

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# GUI Object Creation Methods - Structuring the Application

- \* For smaller applications, there will be two modules:
  - GUI code (as generated by XVT-Design++)
  - Application code (as developed using a native editor)
- \* For larger application, there may be three modules:
  - GUI code (as generated by XVT-Design++) but with function calls to ...
  - GUI code that was developed using a native editor and maintained in separate files
    - · Controller code
    - · Container classes
    - · Custom controls
  - Application code (as developed using a native editor)

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### External Interface Resources

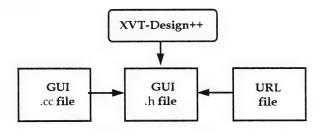
- Why are external resources useful?
  - GUI objects, layout, and attributes definable outside of C++ code (can be changed external to C++ code)
  - Separation of GUI object definitions from code that manages the GUI objects
  - GUI object definitions referred to by resource ID
  - Easy to localize (change language) of user interface
- \* XVT Universal Resource Language (URL)
  - Language (syntax) for defining windows, dialogs, controls, menubars, and strings

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### External Interface Resources (cont.)

- Communication regarding resources thru #define resource IDs
- \* Resource IDs set within XVT-Design++
- \* Resource ID #define's located in .h file

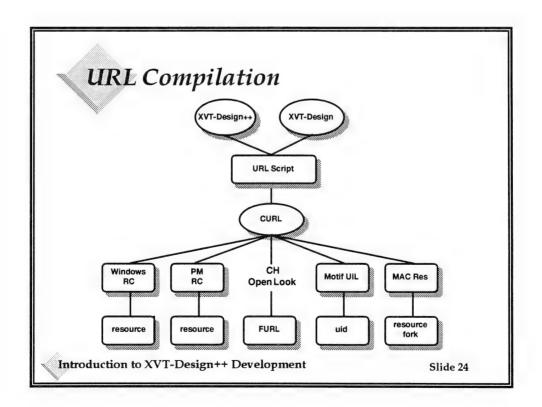


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### External Interface Resources (cont.)

- Compiler for URL (CURL)
  - Converts portable URL format to platform-specific resources
- Creating URL files
  - The fastest and easiest approach: XVT-Design++
  - Manual creation (time-consuming but possible to do)
- \* XVT-Design++ includes a new CURL that will turn old .URLs into XVT-Design++ .PRJs for easier program maintenance

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### **URL File Syntax**

```
MENU TASK_MENUBAR_22

ITEM MN_DB_OPEN "-Open"

SEPARATOR

ITEM MN_DB_BROWSE "-Browse..." DISABLED

ITEM MN_DB_CLOSE "-Close" DISABLED

DIALOG EMPDIALOG URL_RECT(63,39,497,286) "Employee Data" MODELESS

BUTTON ED_NEXT_PB URL_RECT(168,224,110,24) "Next" DEFAULT

BUTTON ED_CANCEL_PB URL_RECT(312,224,110,24) "Cancel"

EDIT ED_EMPID_EC URL_RECT(104,16,120,22) ""

EDIT ED_FIRSTNAME_EC URL_RECT(104,48,120,22) ""

EDIT ED_LASTNAME_EC URL_RECT(104,80,120,22) ""

EDIT ED_TITLE_EC URL_RECT(104,112,120,22) ""
```

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# Portable GUI Event Representation

- \* What is an event?
  - An event is a description of an input which occurs
  - An event will be of a specific type
  - · Other information may be associated with the event
- \* When they are generated?
  - Events can be generated by the user, application or system
  - Events can be generated at any time in nearly any order
- \* How they are used?
  - The GUI application will respond to the events
  - You will write the code that determines the response

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### Categories of XVT Events

- \* Requests vs. Notification
  - Request user has selected a menu item
  - Notification user just resized your window
- \* Application-level events
  - Sent to the application object (task window)
  - Example user has directed the application to be closed
- \* GUI Object-level events
  - Events for the GUI object itself
  - \* Sent to their own event handler member functions

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### XVT-Design++: A Higher-Level Event Model

- \* Use of GUI object-tag pairs
  - Tags correspond to either GUI object events or code locations within a module
  - They represent attachment points for GUI action code
- Each type of GUI object receives a different set of events
- Each type of GUI object also has associated with it a subset of the special tags

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### **Events:** GUI Object-Tag Pairs

- Automatic construction and generation of event handler member function code
- \* Virtual member function for each event type
- Use the Action Code Editor (ACE) to fill out code for event and special tags

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### **GUI** Object-Event Tag Pairs

	Task		Menu		
	Window	Window	Item	Dialog	Controls
Action			X		x
Char		Х		X	
Close	x	X		X	
Create	X	X		X	x
Destroy	X	х		X	x
Focus		x		x	X (some)
Font	X	x			
*scroll		x			
Mouse *		x			
Quit	X				
Size	X	x		X	
Timer	x	x		X	
Update		X			
User	X	x		X	x

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### **GUI** Object-Special Tag Pairs

4.	m 1-				
	Task		Menu		
	Window	Window	Item	Dialog	Controls
Help	X				
Is Quit OK	x				
Main Code	x				
User Header	x				
User URL	x				
Class Decl	x	X	X	x	x
Class Header		X		X	
Top	x	X		X	
Bottom	x	X		X	
Constructor	x	x	x	x	x
Destructor	x	X	x	X	x

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

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### **GUI** Development Guidelines

- \* Principle of least astonishment
- \* Consistency within and between applications
- User conventions, work flow, and visual metaphors
- \* Standard menu layouts, mnemonics, operations, etc.
- Feedback, warnings, confirmation, error checking, etc.
- \* Rules for control layout, grouping, and usage
- \* Color displayed and perceived uniquely

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#### **GUI** Development Guidelines

- Often platform dependent you will probably need to structure your code accordingly
- \* Emphasis the ease of GUI learning / use
- Consider work flow analysis to learn more about how the GUI will be used
- In all cases, conduct prototype user testing to validate and refine the GUI

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Slide 33

### Key Technique: Port Early and Often

- Determine and acquire target platforms early in development cycle
- Test task window (application object) implementations on various XVT-Design++ platforms
- Layout and geometry differences (especially with controls)
- ❖ C++ code portability "gotchas" discovered early
- Build up expertise in the use of each native platform

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

### Course Example - Functional Requirements

#### \* What outputs does the system need to provide?

- The ability to open and browse a database
- The ability to review and update database records
- A graphical display of an employee's salary history
- A interactive gatherer of timesheet information

#### \* Where do the inputs come from?

- An existing database whose name and location will be specified by the user
- The user will also provide record update information

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

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### Course Example - Functional Requirements (cont.)

#### \* Process Control

- The user has complete control over the process
- They will specify the database, control the display of records, and call up ancillary information as desired
- Once a database is open, the user will want to switch between adjacent records

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

### Course Example - Design

- Translating requirements into GUI objects and events
  - Outputs are assigned to windows or dialogs
  - Inputs come from menus, dialogs, and controls
  - Process control is via menus and dialogs
- \* Define each GUI object by its:
  - Contents, layout, attributes, etc.
  - Provide screen shots for user review
  - Better yet, demonstrate a prototype

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

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### Course Example - Design (cont.)

- \* The course example program will need:
  - A window to display the database summary
  - · A dialog to present an employee's record
  - · A window to display the salary history
  - A dialog to present and gather timesheet information
- For each of these, decide what command options need to be made available - controls and/or menu items
- Layout (with XVT-Design++) the physical representation of each of these containers

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

### Section Summary

- \* Planning an application
  - Architecture and management
- \* GUI object creation and external resources
  - #define resource IDs
- \* GUI object/tag pairs
  - Event and special tags
- \* On to building an application ...

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development


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### Section 4

# Building an XVT-Design++ Application

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

Slide 1

#### What This Section Covers

- Creating an Application
- \* Application Objects/Task Windows
- \* Menubars, Menus, Submenus, and Menu Items
- Dialogs and Controls
- \* Connections and TestMode
- \* The Action Code Editor

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

#### Course Structure

- \* During Sections 4 and 5:
  - Discuss the need for some functionality within the Course Example
  - Present the GUI concept background
  - Use XVT-Design++ to layout the GUI objects
  - Use XVT-Design++ to connect and test the GUI objects
  - Present GUI object manipulation discussion
  - Use ACE to implement the action code
  - Present any additional details related to the concept
  - Summarize the concept

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Slide 3

#### Course Structure (cont.)

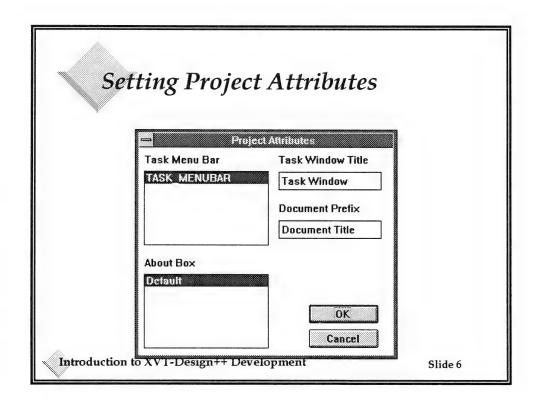
- \* Additional details may include:
  - A summary of the class' member functions
    - · Syntax and Semantics
    - · Inherited "utility" functions
  - Remaining event and special tags
    - · Discussion of purpose and use
  - XVT++ role
    - · What XVT-Design++ doesn't do

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### **Project Creation**

- \* Creating the project file
- Setting the project attributes
  - About box
  - Task menubar
  - Task window title
  - Document prefix
- \* Setting the project file name and location
- \* Saving the project file

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development



# The main() function in XVT-Design++ Applications

- ❖ Required function as in other C++ applications
- Perform application-level initializations using MAIN CODE special tag
- Application object Init() method performs system initialization

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Slide 7

### Performing Application Initialization

- Initilizations may be GUI or non-GUI (open files, network connections, etc.)
- \* Non-GUI initializations
  - In main(), before control is relinquished to XVT++
  - Better yet, in the application object's CREATE event handler member function
- Perform GUI initializations in the application object's CREATE event handler member function
- Different methods are required for reporting errors in main() vs. during the application object's CREATE event

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#### XVT-Design++ Generates main()

```
int main( int argc, char *argv[] )
{
   XVT_Config xdConfig( TASK_MENUBAR, 0, "dbdemo", "Document Title", "Task Window" );
   XVTAppTaskwin *task_win = new XVTAppTaskwin;

   // Non-GUI initialization code inserted
   // here using Main Code tag

  task_win->Init( argc, argv, 0L, xdConfig );
  return 0;
}
```

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### Performing Application Termination

- \* Call XVT\_TaskWin::Close() to terminate your application
- \* Call in response to a program-specific event that signals that the user wants to close the application
  - Example: User selects Quit from the File menu
  - An application can use any event as a signal to terminate
- Call in response to event from Desktop Manager that it wants to close your application
  - Example: User closes the Program Manager in MS Windows

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### **Application Level Concepts**

- \* Screen Window
- Task Window (aka Application Object)
- \* Task Window Events

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

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### Application Concepts: The Screen Window

- XVT++ class XVT\_ScreenWin
- \* Represents the physical display screen
- \* GetOuterRect() provides the physical screen
  extent
- No physical appearance (other than the screen itself)
- Maintains a list of the applications top-level windows and dialogs

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### Application Concepts: The Task Window

- \* XVT++ class XVT\_TaskWin
- ❖ Represents the "Application Object"
- \* May be visibly represented on some platforms
- \* Will always have a menubar
- \* Will be visible if no window with menubar is available

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

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### Application Concepts: Application Object Events

- \* Events (usually) relevant to the application object:
  - CREATE the application has been created
  - DESTROY the application is about to be terminated
  - QUIT from the window manager
  - CLOSE request to close physical task window
- Note: Other events may be received if a non-portable application object has been specified (such as a drawable task window under MS Windows)
- For the rest of this section, assume a portable (standard) application object model

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### Events: Handling CREATE Events

- \* First event received by the application object
- \* A notification event the GUI application is running
- \* No arguments to the CREATE member function
- You usually perform some or all of these operations:
  - Application initialization GUI error messages available
  - Create an initial window or display an About box
  - Store state information in the C++ object

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#### Events: Handling DESTROY Events

- \* Final event received by the application object
- \* Notification that the application is terminating
- \* No arguments to the DESTROY member function
- Limit your work here:
  - Release resources and application finalization by, for example, disconnecting from networks, freeing allocated memory, etc

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#### Events: Handling CLOSE Events

- \* Request event: the user has operated the close control on the border of the task window
- \* No arguments to the CLOSE member function
- \* XVT-Design++ generates default code to call Is\_Quit\_OK() and then Close() based on the return value
- \* Add code to the IS QUIT OK special tag to:
  - Save and close files or ask user to discard work, if necessary
  - Return TRUE or FALSE, as appropriate
- \* Calling Close() generates a DESTROY event (where termination code will be executed)

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### Events: Handling QUIT Events

- \* Received only by the application object
- Window Manager wants to terminate your application
- May either be a request or a notification window system dependent
- If a request (xdQuery is TRUE), call QuitOK() to indicate this application approves of shutdown
- If a notification (xdQuery is FALSE), call Close()

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### XVT-Design++'s QUIT Code

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# Course Example -Application Object Action Code

- \* USER HEADER special tag code
  - Error handler class defined
- CREATE event tag code
  - Instantiate error handler class
  - Create initial windows
- \* Default action code for
  - CLOSE is it OK to close
  - QUIT handles system manager quit requests
  - MAIN CODE create the task window

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### Application Object Details - Additional Event Tags

- USER an application-defined event has been initiated
- TIMER the timer associated with the Task Window has gone off
- SIZE the size of the Task Window has been set or changed
- FONT the user chose an item from the Font menu, the default is to call SetFontMenu()

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### Application Object Details -Additional Special Tags

- \* CONSTRUCTOR code placed within it
- \* DESTRUCTOR code placed within it
- \* TOP place to add declarations, constants, etc. to .cc
- \* BOTTOM place to add member functions to .cc
- \* CLASS DECL place to declare data and functions
- \* USER\_HEADER code placed in application .h
- \* USER\_URL code placed in URL file
- \* HELP help text associated with the application
- \* MAIN CODE and IS QUIT OK discussed previously

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# Application Object Details - Member Function Summary

```
* virtual void Init( int argc, char* argv[],
   unsigned long flags, XVT_Config config )

* void Close()

* virtual void e_close()

* virtual void e_destroy()

* virtual void e_destroy()

* virtual void e_quit( BOOLEAN query )

* virtual void e_size( XVT_Rct boundary )

* virtual void e_timer( XVT_Timer* timer )

* virtual long e_user( long id, void* data )

* virtual void e_font( XVT_Font font, FONT_PART part )

* void QuitOK()
```

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### Application Object Details -Member Function Summary (cont.)

- virtual XVT\_Rct GetInnerRect()
   virtual XVT\_Rct GetOuterRect()
   EVENT\_MASK GetEventMask() const
   XVT\_ChildBase\* GetFirstWin()
   XVT\_ChildBase\* GetNextWin()
   long GetWinCount() const
   void SetEventMask( EVENT\_MASK mask )
   XVT\_Menu\* GetMenu()
   void SetMenu( XVT\_Menu\* menu )
   BOOLEAN GetTitle( char\* buffer,
- unsigned long\* len ) const
  \* void SetTitle( const char\* str )
- t waid Cathantwane / NOTE Boot fout
- void SetFontMenu( XVT\_Font font )

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### **Application Object Summary**

- \* Screen windows
- Task windows which are represented by application objects
- Key tags CREATE, QUIT, CLOSE, and DESTROY events

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### An Application's Need for Menus

- Offer the user a set of program control options (usually grouped by subject)
- \* Minimal screen real estate used
- The set of control options available may differ based on the current View
- \* Menu items can be selected:
  - Manually with the mouse or keyboard arrow keys (novice)
  - Via mnemonics or accelerators (expert, or keyboard-only)

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#### **Mnemonics** and Accelerators

- Accelerators are keychord equivalents of a menu items
- Presented to the user next to the menu item
- Mnemonics specify a letter key that may be typed instead of using the mouse to select a menu or menu item
- \* Indicated by underlining or bold-facing the appropriate letter of the menu or menu item

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### XVT-Design++ Menu Components

- \* Menubars
  - · Represents the entire menu definition for a window
- Menus and Submenus
  - Groups of related command options
  - May have mnemonics
- Menu Items
  - Represent each individual command option in a menu
  - May simply be separators
  - May be disabled or checkable
  - May cause other submenus to appear
  - Selectable and result in ACTION events
  - May have mnemonics and/or accelerators

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#### Course Example -Menu Requirements

- Utilize standard menus where possible
- \* Default action code for standard menu items
  - Quit, About, Help
- \* Application-specific menu items
  - Access, Browse, Disconnect
  - Grouped within a Database menu

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### XVT-Design++: Defining Menus

- Use XVT-Design++ Menubar Editor to create new and modify standard menus
- Menubars are window attributes
  - The same menubar may be attached to more than one window
  - · Separate menubars may be defined for each window
- \* Task Window menubar ID passed to Init() in main()

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### Standard XVT-Design++ Menus

- \* File
- \* Edit
- \* Font/Style
  - Generates Font events
- \* Help
  - Automatically calls Help() member function

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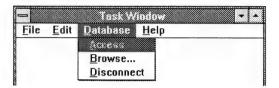
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### Course Example -Define Menus

- ❖ Menubars one, modified TASK\_MENUBAR
- \* Menus -
  - Standard menus minus Edit and Font menus
  - New Database menu
- Menu Items Access, Browse, and Disconnect within Database menu
- Initial enabled/disabled states
  - Set with XVT-Design++
  - Disabled all but Quit menu item within File menu
  - Enabled menu items within Database menu

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### <u>Course Example</u>: Change Task Menubar in Application



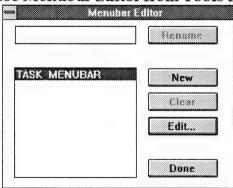
- \* Affects all windows that use TASK\_MENUBAR
- \* Will contain 4 items
  - Standard File menu
  - Standard Edit menu
  - Database menu (Access, Browse..., Disconnect)
  - Standard Help menu

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### Course Example: Using the Menubar Editor

Choose Menubar Editor from Tools menu



 Select Edit to modify the TASK\_MENUBAR and bring up the Menu Editor

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# <u>Course Example</u>: Modify Application's Version of TASK\_MENUBAR

- Clear Standard Font menu by selecting (Standard Font) in list box and press Clear pushbutton
- Add new Database menu by pressing New pushbutton
- Change name from New to Database by double clicking in list box or press Attributes pushbutton to change title attribute

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#### Course Example: Menu Editor Menu: TASK\_MENUBAR TASK\_MENUBAR\_1 (Standard File) Cut Up Down (Standard Edit) Database Copy New (Standard Help) Paste Separator Clear After Attributes... O Before Userdata... Std Menus... Edit.. Done Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development Slide 36

### <u>Class Example</u>: Adding Items to Database Menu

- \* With Database selected press Edit pushbutton
- Select New 3 times to add 3 new buttons to the menu
- \* Select each and change it's attributes
  - Title

#define

Mnem

Access

MN\_DB\_ACCESS

Α

Browse...

MN\_DB\_BROWSE

В

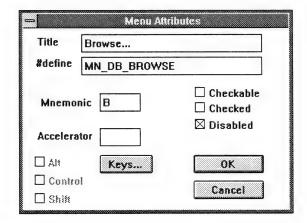
Disconnect

MN\_DB\_DISCONNECT D

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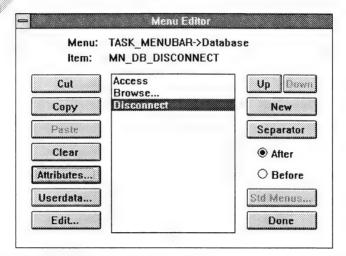
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### <u>Class Example</u>: Editing Menu Items



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### <u>Class Example</u>: Adding Items to Database Menu (Cont.)



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### Course Example -Connect Menus

- Eventually we will connect the new menu items to other GUI objects
- For now, we use a pre-defined dialog to stub out the functionality
  - Pre-defined dialogs will be discussed later in the Section
  - Stubbed out Access, Browse, and Disconnect menu items

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### Menus: Handling ACTION Events

- Request- Menu selection has been made from a window's menu
- Menu item selection identified via callback event to a menu item instance
- Arguments to event handler member function indicate if the shift or control keys were pressed
- Simple command from user just execute appropriate application action code

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### Course Example - Menu Action Code

- \* Eventually, the Database menu items will:
  - Open/close other GUI objects
  - Invoke database functionality
- Those GUI objects and that code does not currently exist
- Previously we set connections for the Database menu item ACTION tags

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#### Manipulating Menu Items

- Every window class has a protected data member
   XVT Menu \*Menu
- \* Retrieve an XVT\_MenuNode with XVT\_Menu::GetItem()
- \* Enable and disable menu items with XVT\_MenuNode::SetEnabledState()
- \* Check and uncheck a checkable menu item via XVT\_MenuItem::SetCheckedState()
- You may want to store pointers to XVT\_MenuItem instances in your derived window classes
- Get a menu item's title with
   XVT\_MenuNode::GetTitle()

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### Manipulating Menus

- \* Existing menus can be retrieved from a window
  via XVT\_MenuWin::GetMenu()
- \* A menu can be set into a window via XVT\_MenuWin::SetMenu()
- \* Add an XVT\_MenuNode to an XVT\_Menu using XVT\_Menu::Install()

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### Menus Details: Additional Tags

#### \* Special tags:

- CLASS DECL place to declare instance data
- CONSTRUCTOR code that will be placed in the C++ object's constructor
- DESTRUCTOR code that will be placed in the C++ object's destructor

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# XVT\_Menu: Member Function Summary

- void Install( XVT\_MenuNodeBase\* node )
- void Replace( XVT\_MenuItem\* item )
- \* XVT\_MenuNodeBase\* GetFirst()
- XVT\_MenuNode\* GetItem( MENU\_TAG tag )

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### Menu Items: Member Function Summary

XVT\_MenuNode XVT\_MenuNode XVT\_SubMenu XVT\_MenuSeparator

- XVT\_MenuNodeBase
  - XVT\_Menu\* GetParent()
- XVT\_MenuNode
  - BOOLEAN GetEnabledState() const
  - void SetEnabledState( BOOLEAN state )
  - short GetMKey() const
  - BOOLEAN GetTitle( char\* buffer, unsigned long len ) const
  - void SetTitle( char\* str )

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# Menu Items: Member Function Summary (cont.)

- \* XVT\_SubMenu
  - \* XVT\_Menu\* GetSubMenuPtr() const
  - void SetSubMenuPtr( XVT\_Menu\* submenu )
- XVT\_MenuItem
  - virtual void e\_action( BOOLEAN shift, BOOLEAN control )
  - BOOLEAN GetCheckableState() const
  - \* BOOLEAN GetCheckedState() const
  - void SetCheckedState( BOOLEAN state )

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### Menus: Summary

- \* Menubars attached to windows
- Menubars comprised of menu, submenus, and menu items
- \* XVT provides standard menus
- \* Key tags ACTION events

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### Course Example -Dialog Requirements

- \* System requirement
  - Browse database records
- \* What information will be gathered?
  - Which record to review next or previous
  - Employee information ID, name, and title
  - Which information to review salary history or timesheet
  - Type of employee salary, hourly, or temporary
  - Type of insurance
  - Type of benefits automatic deposit or health club
  - Whether to OK or cancel updates

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#### Dialogs: Concept

- \* Dialogs are Controllers (in the M-V-C paradigm)
- Dialogs collect input from the user needed to complete an application command or update the Model
- \* OK, Cancel, and/or Escape controls are typical

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### Dialogs: Characteristics

- \* Special purpose: GUI container object for controls
- \* Modality attribute (modal or modeless)
- Support native platform keyboard navigation between controls
- Border decorations depend on the native system style
- Cannot be used to display graphical output (text or images); cannot have menubars

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### XVT-Design++: Defining Dialogs

- Use New Dialog menu item in Windows menu
- \* Dialog attributes include:
  - Title
  - Initial size and location
  - Modality
  - Visibility and enabledness
  - Class
  - #define resource ID
- \* Layout individual controls more in a moment

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### Pre-Defined Dialogs

- \* XVT\_ASK Ask the user a yes-or-no question
- $\begin{tabular}{ll} $\star$ XVT\_NOTE Display an informational message \\ \end{tabular}$
- XVT\_ERROR or XVT\_MESSAGE Display an Alert or Error message
- \* OPEN\_FILE\_DLG or SAVE\_FILE\_DLG Prompt the user for a file name for input or output
- Available thru the XVT-Design++ Connections... dialog

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## Other Pre-Defined Dialogs

- To put up the application About box, use XVT\_GlobalAPI::About()
- \* To get a string typed by the user, call XVT\_GlobalAPI::Response()

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# Course Example - Dialog Layout and Connections

- Dialog layout and attributes
  - Dialog is Modeless
  - Connection in Browse menu item ACTION tag to open the dialog
- OK pushbutton
  - (Temporary) connection in ACTION tag to close the dialog

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### Dialogs: Handling CREATE Events

- \* Notification that the dialog has been created
- \* The first event received by a dialog
- \* No additional arguments are passed
- \* XVT-Design++ will instantiate the controls
- \* Opportunity to initialize dialog controls
  - Check boxes, radio buttons, list buttons, edit controls, etc.

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### Dialogs: Handling CLOSE Events

- \* Request by the user to close the dialog
- \* No additional arguments are passed
- \* XVT-Design++ default action code is to call Close()
- Should exhibit the same response as when the user selects a Cancel button

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### Dialogs: Handling DESTROY Events

- \* Notification that the dialog has been closed
- \* The last event received by a dialog
- \* No additional arguments are passed
- \* Free any memory or resources used by the dialog

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## Dialogs: Special Tags

- \* CLASS DECL place to declare data and functions
  - Store a pointer to the data object or a working copy of it
- \* CLASS HEADER place to add #include's to .h file
- \* TOP place to add declarations, constants, etc.
- **\*** BOTTOM place to define member functions
- CONSTRUCTOR place to add code to constructor
  - Typically initializes the data members
- DESTRUCTOR place to add code to destructor

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### Dialogs: Details

#### \* Keyboard navigation

 Use Creation Order dialog from the Edit menu to specify visit order

#### \* Mnemonics

- Platform-dependent implementation
- Place tildes in control title before character
- XVT-Design++ does not represent

#### \* Modal dialogs

• Do not forget OK and Cancel push buttons

#### \* Remember -

- OK or Cancel push buttons have no automatic behavior
- Dialogs must be closed via Close()

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### Dialogs - Additional Event Tags

- \* FOCUS the dialog has gained or lost keyboard focus
- CHAR the user pressed a key on the keyboard and a control that receives CHAR events did not have focus
- \* SIZE the dialog size was set or changed
- \* TIMER a timer associated with the dialog went off
- \* USER an application-defined event was initiated

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# Dialogs - Member Function Summary

BOOLEAN Init( long rid )

 BOOLEAN Init( WIN\_TYPE wtype, XVT\_Rct boundary, const char \*title, long flags )

 void Close()

 virtual void e\_char( short chr, BOOLEAN shift, BOOLEAN control )

 virtual void e\_close()

 virtual void e\_create()

 virtual void e\_destroy()

 virtual void e\_focus( BOOLEAN active )

 virtual void e\_size( XVT\_Rct boundary )

 virtual void e\_timer( XVT\_Timer\* timer )

 virtual void e\_user( long id, void\* data )

 BOOLEAN GetEnabledState() const

 EVENT\_MASK GetEventMask() const

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# Dialogs - Member Function Summary (cont.)

XVT\_Control\* GetCtl( long cid )
 long GetCtlCount() const

 XVT\_Control\* GetFirstCtl()

 XVT\_Control\* GetNextCtl()

 BOOLEAN GetTitle( char\* buffer, unsigned long\* len ) const

 BOOLEAN GetVisibleState() const

 void SetEnabledState( BOOLEAN state )

 void SetEventMask( EVENT\_MASK mask )

 void SetInnerRect( XVT\_Rct boundary )

 void SetTitle( const char\* str )

 void SetVisibleState( BOOLEAN state )

 virtual XVT\_Rct GetInnerRect() const

 virtual XVT\_RctGetOuterRect() const

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### Dialogs: Summary

- \* Dialogs are Controllers and/or Views
- \* Dialogs contain controls
- \* Dialogs are Modal or Modeless
- \* Initializing dialogs and their controls
- \* XVT provides pre-defined dialogs
- \* Dialogs support keyboard navigation
- Can not draw within dialogs

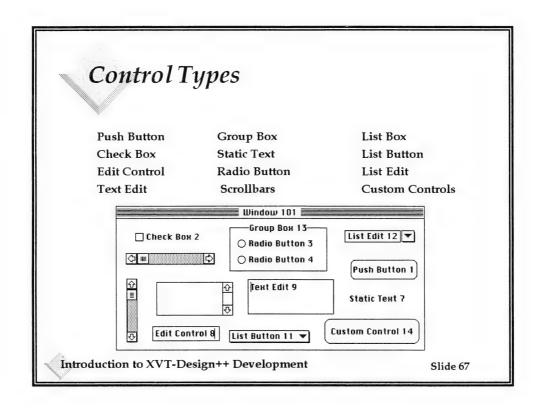
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## Course Example - Controls Requirements

- \* What information will be gathered thru dialogs?
  - Which record to review next or previous
  - Employee information ID, name, and title
  - · Which information to review salary history or timesheet
  - Type of employee salary, hourly, or temporary
  - Type of insurance
  - Type of benefits automatic deposit or health club
  - Whether to OK or cancel updates
- \* How to map those to control types?
- \* How to layout the controls within the dialog?

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#### **Controls: Characteristics**

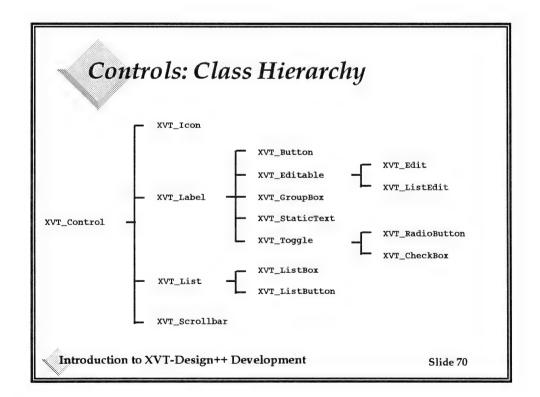
- Each control designed to support a specialized form of user-application interaction
- \* Each control type is represented by a base class
- Each control added to a container is represented by a class derived from the base class
- Some degree of look-and-feel consistency across platforms

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### Controls: Characteristics (cont.)

- Controls always placed within a window or dialog container
- Some controls used for annotation only (no interaction)
  - Static text
  - Group boxes
  - Icons (sometimes)

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### **Controls: Creating Controls**

#### \* Defined in external resources

- C++ object instantiated within the e\_create() member function of the container
- GUI object created automatically when the container is created
- C++ object destroyed automatically

#### \* Programmatically

- C++ object instantiated at your discretion
- GUI object created with a call to Init()
- C++ object destroyed automatically

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### Controls: Managing Controls

- Retrieve the XVT\_Control object from the XVT\_Dialog or XVT\_DrawableContainer member function GetCtl()
- Controls can also be enabled/disabled and visible/invisible
- Other member functions allow you to get or set the title, get the container object, and get or set the size

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## XVT\_Control: Member Function Summary

virtual BOOLEAN Init()
virtual void Close()
virtual void e\_create()
virtual void e\_destroy()
virtual void e\_user( long id, void\* data )
BOOLEAN GetEnabledState() const
long GetID() const
XVT\_Base\* GetParent() const
BOOLEAN GetVisibleState() const
void MakeFront()
void SetEnabledState( BOOLEAN state )
void SetInnerRect( XVT\_Rct boundary )
void SetVisibleState( BOOLEAN state )
virtual XVT\_Rct GetInnerRect() const
virtual XVT\_Rct GetInnerRect() const
virtual XVT\_RctGetOuterRect() const

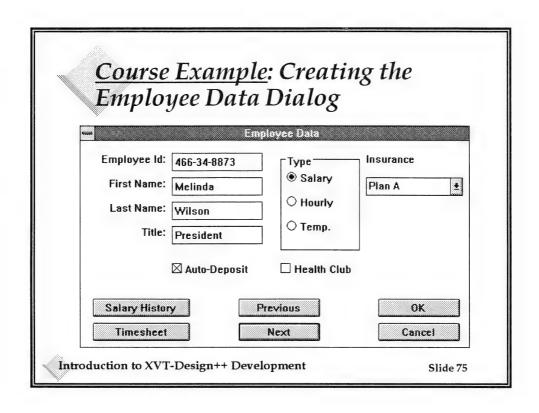
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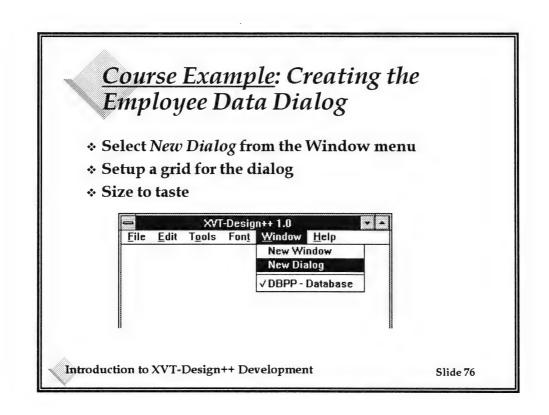
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## Course Example - Control Layout and Connections

- Employee Data dialog controls
  - Layout and Attributes
  - Grid and Align functionality
- Stubbed out connections to undefined objects
  - · Between dialog and salary history window
  - Between dialog and timesheet window

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## <u>Course Example</u>: Creating the Employee Data Dialog

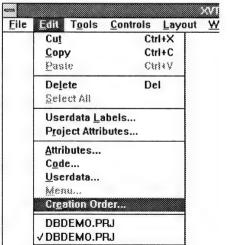
- \* Fairly densely populated dialog
  - 5 static text controls
  - 4 edit controls
  - 6 pushbutton controls
  - 3 radio button controls
  - 2 checkbox controls
  - 1 groupbox control
  - 1 listbutton control
- Select controls from the control menu, and place in dialog
- Set control attributes of titles and #defines

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# <u>Course Example</u>: Employee Data Dialog - Setting Creation Order

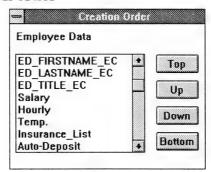
- \* From Edit menu
- Select Creation Order



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## <u>Course Example</u>: Setting Creation or Tab NavigationVisit Order

\* Select an item in the list, then using the *Top*, *Up*, *Down*, and *Bottom* buttons, position the item in the creation order



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#### Controls: ACTION Events

- Notification that user operated a control in a container (window or dialog)
- Arguments provided to the event handler member function differ by control type -
  - For example, list boxes are told if an item was double-clicked

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## Controls: ACTION Events (cont.)

- \* Controls that receive no event information
  - Push button, check box, radio button, list button, edit control, list edit
- \* Controls that do receive event information
  - List box, scrollbars
- Controls that generate no events
  - Static text, group boxes, icons

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### Controls: Discussion by Type

- ❖ For each control type, we will present:
  - Introduction
  - Initialization protocol
  - Handling events
  - Member function summary

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#### Controls: Push Buttons

- \* XVT++ class XVT\_Button
- \* Attributes
  - Mnemonics
  - Default
  - Visible and/or Enabled
- \* Layout
  - Consistent height and width
  - Align horizontally and vertically
- Used for actions that move the user beyond that dialog box
  - Use ellipses after the title when going to another dialog

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#### Controls: Push Button Events

- \* Application-specific response to an ACTION event
- \* OK and Cancel push buttons say that the user is done with the dialog
  - Command complete
  - Time to update Model

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# XVT\_Button Member Function Summary

- \* virtual BOOLEAN Init( XVT\_Rct boundary, long flags = 0L,
   char\* title = NULL )
- virtual void e\_action()
- void GetTitle( char\* str, unsigned long\* len )
- void SetTitle( char\* str )

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### Controls: Edit Fields

- \* XVT++ class XVT\_Edit
- \* Attributes
  - Visible and/or enabled
- \* Allow the user to input a text string
- \* Vary in appearance and behavior by platform
  - But always one line high

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#### Controls: Edit Field Events

- \* ACTION event implies that an edit field's contents changed
- Password style of user input store (do not display) text after each ACTION event
- \* XVT++ will manage the contents of an edit field

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### Controls: Edit Field Events (cont.)

- FOCUS event implies that the focus was gained or lost
- \* Focus loss validate the contents of the edit field
- \* Focus gain select all of the text for the user as a convenience
- \* You can query or change the contents via
  XVT\_Label::GetTitle() and
  XVT\_Label::SetTitle(), and set the current
  selection via XVT\_Editable::SelectText()

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## XVT\_Edit Member Function Summary

- \* virtual BOOLEAN Init( XVT\_Rct boundary, long flags = 0L,
   char\* title = NULL )
- virtual void e\_action()
- virtual void e\_focus( BOOLEAN active )
- void SelectText( long first, long last )
- BOOLEAN GetTitle( char\* buffer, unsigned long\* len ) const
- void SetTitle( const char\* str )

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#### Controls: List Edits

- \* XVT++ class XVT\_ListEdit
- \* Attributes
  - Visible and/or enabled
- Basically an edit field with a list of candidate inputs
- Use when at least some inputs are known, but the user may enter a original input

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#### Controls: List Edit Events

- List edit controls are treated like edit field controls which have an additional feature
  - A list of strings that can be selected and placed in the edit field
- Set the contents of a list component with the XVT\_List Edit member functions
- The edit field portion of the list edit is automatically updated when the user makes a selection from the drop-down list

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

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#### Controls: List Edit Events (cont.)

- ACTION event implies that an list edit's contents changed
- FOCUS event implies that the focus was gained or lost
- Potentially add original entries to the list
  - Keep only the most recent entries in the list

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#### Controls: List Edit Events (cont.)

- \* Manipulate the edit field component in *exactly* the same manner as for edit field controls
- \* The following things can be done to a list edit control using XVT\_ListEdit member functions:
  - Select text in the edit field component
  - Edit text in the edit field component
  - Pick an item from the list component (thus, changing the contents of the edit field component)

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## XVT\_ListEdit Member Function Summary

- \* void Add( long index, const char\* str )
- void Add( const char\* str )
- \* void Add( XVT\_StrList\* list )
- virtual BOOLEAN Init( XVT\_Rct boundary, long flags = 0L,
   char\* title = NULL )
- virtual void e\_action()
- virtual void e\_focus( BOOLEAN active )
- void SelectText( long first, long last )
- \* BOOLEAN GetTitle( char\* buffer, unsigned long\* len ) const
- void SetTitle( const char\* str )

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#### Controls: Check Boxes

- XVT++ class XVT\_CheckBox
- \* Attributes
  - Checked, visible, and/or enabled
- Use check boxes where a combination of selections is allowed

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

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### Controls: Handling Check Box Events

- ACTION event is a request to check or uncheck the control
- Default action code calls XVT\_CheckBox member function SetCheckedState() to check or uncheck the control
  - GetCheckedState() used to obtain the current state

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## XVT\_CheckBox Member Function Summary

- virtual BOOLEAN Init( XVT\_Rct boundary, long flags = OL,
   char\* title = NULL )
- virtual void e\_action()
- void SetCheckedState( BOOLEAN state )
- virtual BOOLEAN GetCheckedState()
- void GetTitle( char\* buffer, unsigned long\* len ) const
- \* void SetTitle( const char\* str )

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#### Controls: Radio Buttons

- XVT++ class XVT\_RadioButton
- \* Attributes
  - Checked, visible, and/or enabled
- Similar to check boxes, in that they can be checked or unchecked
- Different in that of a group, only one button will be checked at a time
- Group defined using the XVT++ class XVT\_RadioBtnGroup

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### Controls: Radio Button Groups

- \* Radio buttons belong to a group
- \* XVT-Design++ assumes that consecutively defined radio buttons comprise a group
- To be clearer, add a Group Box control before the first radio button
- \* XVT-Design++ generates code for the group
  - Instantiates XVT\_RadioBtnGroup class
  - Default action code checks one button and unchecks the others

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#### Controls: Radio Button Events

- ACTION event is a request to change the checked member of a group
- \* XVT\_Toggle::SetCheckedState() will check or uncheck a radio button
- \* XVT\_Toggle::GetCheckedState() will tell you if a radio button is checked or unchecked

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## XVT\_RadioButton Member Function Summary

- \* virtual BOOLEAN Init( XVT\_Rct boundary, long flags = 0L,
   char\* title = NULL )
- virtual void e\_action()
- void SetCheckedState()
- virtual BOOLEAN GetCheckedState()
- \* void GetTitle( char\* buffer, unsigned long\* len ) const
- void SetTitle( const char\* str )

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## Controls: Group Boxes

- XVT++ class XVT\_GroupBox
- \* Attributes
  - Visible and/or enabled
- Used to group controls, usually radio buttons
- Appears on the screen as a rectangle around the controls
- For annotation purposes only; no interaction capability or subsequent events

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# XVT\_GroupBox Member Function Summary

- virtual BOOLEAN Init( XVT\_Rct boundary, long flags = OL,
   const char\* title = NULL )
- \* BOOLEAN GetTitle( char\* buffer, unsigned long\* len ) const
- \* void SetTitle( const char\* str )

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### Controls: List Boxes

- \* XVT++ class XVT\_ListBox
- Attributes
  - Set to support single or multiple selections
  - Can be set to be read-only
  - Visible and/or enabled
- \* Allow users to make single or multiple selections from a scrollable list of candidate selections

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### Controls: List Box Initialization

- \* Initialize a list box by:
  - Invoking the XVT\_List::Add() member function
  - Using XVT\_List::SetSelectedState() to check an item
- Prevent needless screen updates by bracketing all XVT\_List::Add() calls within a pair of calls to XVT\_ListBox::SetSuspendedState()
- \* Practical limit: 150 list items for portability

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### Controls: List Box Events

- ACTION event implies that an element in a list box was selected
  - The dbl\_click argument is TRUE if a double-click was performed; otherwise, it is FALSE
- \* A single click implies a selection
- A double click implies a selection and some button press

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# XVT\_ListBox Member Function Summary

- virtual BOOLEAN Init( XVT\_Rct boundary, long flags = OL, const char\* title = NULL )
- \* BOOLEAN Add( long index, const char\* str )
- \* BOOLEAN Add( const char\* str )
- \* BOOLEAN Add( long index, XVT\_StrList\* list )
- & BOOLEAN Add( XVT\_StrList\* list )
- \* BOOLEAN Delete( long index )
- \* BOOLEAN Clear()
- virtual void e\_action( BOOLEAN dbl\_click )

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## XVT\_ListBox Member Function Summary (cont.)

- + long CountAll() const
- \* XVT\_StrList GetAll() const
- BOOLEAN GetElement( long index, char\* buffer, unsigned long\* len )
- BOOLEAN GetFirstSelection( char\* buffer, unsigned long\* len ) const
- BOOLEAN GetSuspendedState() const
- \* BOOLEAN GetSelectedState( long index ) const
- \$ XVT\_StrList GetSelections() const
- void SetSelectedState( long index, BOOLEAN select )
- void SetSuspendedState( BOOLEAN state )

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#### Controls: List Buttons

- XVT++ class XVT\_ListButton
- \* Attributes
  - Visible and/or enabled
- \* Like a list box control but it uses less screen
- Manipulate just like a list box using the XVT\_List member functions

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#### Controls: List Button Events

- ACTION event implies that a selection was made from a list button
  - The button title is automatically updated
  - Dropping down the list generates no event
- No additional arguments are provided; use XVT\_List::GetSelectionIndex() to determine which item in the list was selected

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## XVT\_ListButton Member Function Summary

- virtual BOOLEAN Init( XVT\_Rct boundary, long flags = 0L, const char\* title = NULL )
- \* BOOLEAN Add( long index, const char\* str )
- \* BOOLEAN Add( const char\* str )
- \* BOOLEAN Add( long index, XVT\_StrList\* list )
- BOOLEAN Add( XVT\_StrList\* list )
- \* BOOLEAN Delete( long index )
- \* BOOLEAN Clear()
- virtual void e\_action()

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## XVT\_ListButton Member Function Summary (cont.)

- \* XVT\_StrList GetAll() const
- \$ BOOLEAN GetElement( long index, char\* buffer, unsigned long\* len )
- \$ BOOLEAN GetFirstSelection( char\* buffer, unsigned long\* len ) const
- BOOLEAN GetSelectedState( long index ) const
- long GetSelectionIndex() const
- \* XVT\_StrList GetSelections() const
- void SetSelectedState( long index, BOOLEAN slect )

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### Initializing List Boxes and List Buttons from Resources

- \* Retrieve strings and string lists from your resource file via the XVT\_GlobalAPI member function ListResStrings()
  - Technique to avoid having hardcoded strings in your C++ code
  - Use XVT-Design++ to define resource strings

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#### Controls: Static Text

- XVT++ class XVT\_StaticText
- \* Attributes
  - Visible and/or enabled
- Used to label other controls
- \* Receive no events

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## XVT\_StaticTextMember Function Summary

- \* BOOLEAN Init()
- BOOLEAN Init( XVT\_Rct boundary, long flags = 0L, const char\* title = NULL )
- \* BOOLEAN GetTitle( char\* buffer, unsigned long\* len ) const
- void SetTitle( const char\* str )

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### Course Example -Action Code for Controls

- Controls of the same type have similar (if not identical) action code fragments
- \* Radio buttons make dirty and check
- \* Check boxes make dirty and check
- \* Edit make dirty
- List button make dirty
- \* Push buttons:
  - · OK update and close
  - · Cancel close
  - · Next and Previous switch records
  - · Salary History invoke function
  - · Time Sheet connection

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#### Controls: Scroll Bars

- XVT++ class XVT\_ScrollBar
- \* Attributes
  - Visible and/or enabled
- \* Combine with text boxes to set numeric values
- \* Add to text edit objects (Section 6) to allow scrolling thru large bodies of text
- Also used as sliders, volume control, and equalizers
- Initializing set range first, then set the position and proportion

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

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#### Controls: Scroll Control Events

- ACTION event implies that the user operated a scrollbar control
- \* No automatic behavior by XVT-Design++
  - No scrolling of any kind is performed
  - You must manually manage the scrollbar itself once the event is received
- \* Typical response:
  - Scroll or adjust whatever data is manipulated by the control
  - Then adjust the scrollbar thumb position

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## XVT\_ScrollBar Member Function Summary

- virtual BOOLEAN Init( XVT\_Rct boundary, long flags = 0L )
- virtual void e\_action( SCROLL\_CONTROL what, short pos )
- long GetScrollPosition() const
- long GetScrollProportion() const
- void GetScrollRange( long\* min, long\* max ) const
- void SetScrollPosition( long pos )
- \* void SetScrollProportion( long prop )
- void SetScrollRange( long min, long max, long pos )

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

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#### Controls: Icons

- \* XVT++ class XVT\_Icon
- Not defineable with XVT-Design++
- Allows you to display platform-specific icons in dialogs and windows
- \* Defined non-portable / referred to portably
- \* Icons receive no events
  - Therefore no need to subclass, instantiate directly
- Member function summary
  - virtual BOOLEAN Init()
  - virtual BOOLEAN Init( XVT\_Rct boundary, long cid = 0L, long flags = 0L)

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

### Controls: Using XVT\_StrList

- The XVT\_StrList class specifies the interface to general-purpose lists of strings
- Each string is associated with a long word (32 bits) that can hold any data you want
- Used most commonly to move lists of strings to or from list-oriented controls
  - List boxes
  - List buttons
  - List edits
- \* Also returned by the XVT\_GlobalAPI member functions ListFaces() and ListResStrings()

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## Controls: Using XVT\_StrList (cont.)

- \* Add a string (along with a long word of data) with the XVT\_StrList member functions SlistAdd() or SlistAddSorted()
- Remove a string with XVT\_StrList::Remove()
- You can retrieve the string and data by numeric index (starting with 0) with XVT\_StrList::GetElement()
- \* You can loop through all of the strings with the XVT\_StrList member functions GetFirst() and GetNext()
- You can count the number of elements in an SLIST with XVT\_StrList::Count()

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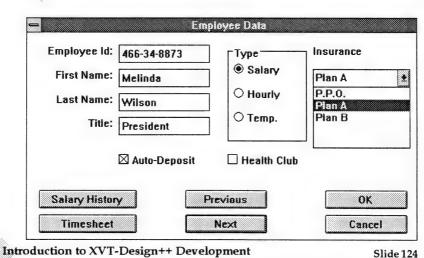
### XVT\_StrList Member Function Summary

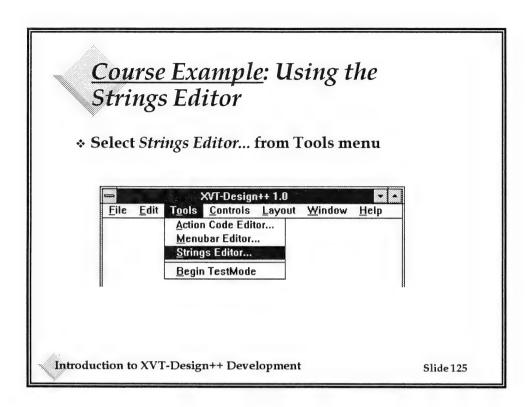
- \* void Add( long element, const char\* str, long data = 0L ) void Add( const char\* str, long data = 0L ) void Add( XVT\_StrList\* sl ) void AddSorted( const char\* str, long data = 0L, BOOLEAN
- unique = FALSE, BOOLEAN case\_sensitive = FALSE )
- long Count()
- void Debug()
- void GetElement( long index, const char\*\* str, long\* data ) const
- void GetFirst( const char\*\* str, long\* data )
- void GetNext( const char\*\* str, long\* data )
- void Remove( long index )

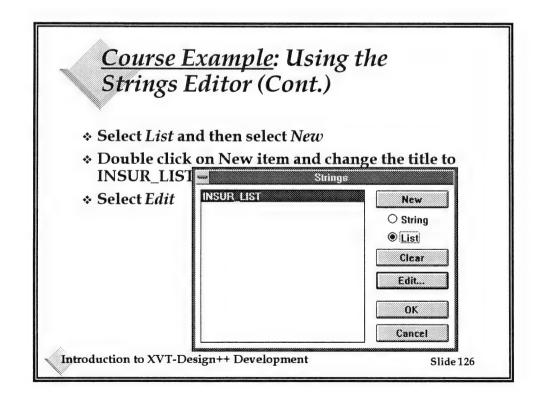
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## Course Example: Using the Strings Editor for Insurance List



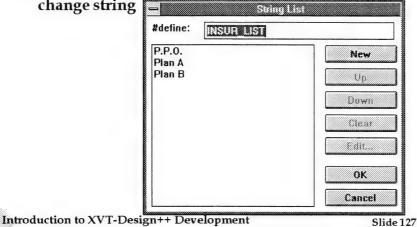




# <u>Course Example</u>: Using the Strings Editor (Cont.)

❖ Select New 3 times and double click each item to change string 

☐ String List



### Controls: Additional Tags

- Event tags:
  - CREATE code that initializes the appearance of a control
  - DESTROY code that frees storage memory
  - USER code that responds to an application-defined event
- Special tags:
  - CLASS DECL place to add instance data to the class
  - CONSTRUCTOR code placed in the object's constructor
  - DESTRUCTOR code placed in the object's destructor

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### **Custom Controls**

- \* An opportunity to define application-specific information displays and inputs:
  - Sliders
  - Spreadsheets
  - Toolbars
- Class and member functions defined by you in a file whose name will be referenced as the Class within the control's Attributes... dialog
- \* Can only be contained by a window

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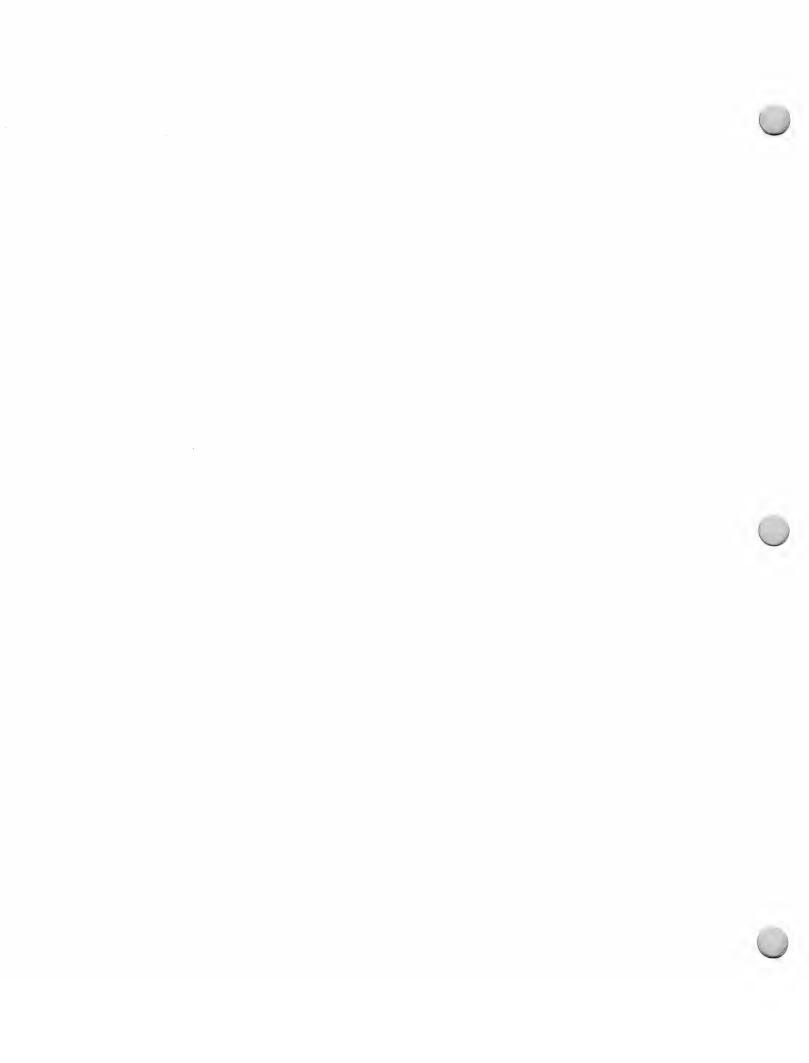
### Controls: Summary

- \* Controls are always within a window or dialog
- Controls usually defined and created along with their container
- Various control types to support specific user interaction scenarios
- \* Key tag ACTION events
- Custom controls are supported

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### Section 5

# Building an XVT-Design++ Application

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### What This Section Covers

- Windows with controls (only)
- Graphical output windows
  - Viewport windows
  - Scaled-to-fit graphical output
- Graphical output operations
- \* Direct manipulation of window contents
- Using Window Classes
- Using Child Windows

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

# Course Example - Window Requirements

- \* Display the database
  - Will contain controls to manage database access
  - To be displayed as part of the application creation
- Present the salary history
  - To contain a graphic depiction of the salary history
  - The graphic should be interactive to allow changes

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Slide 3

### Windows: GUI Concept

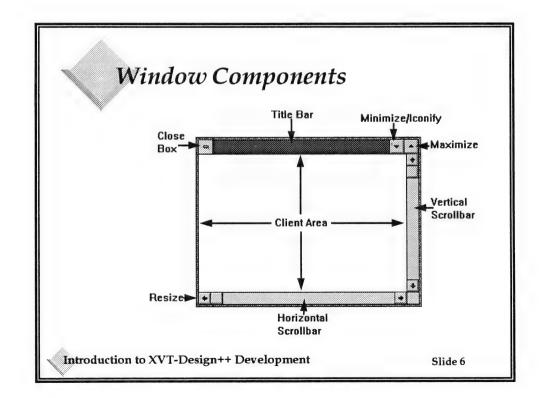
- \* Defines an application's work area on the desktop
- GUI container object for graphical output (text, images, shapes)
- Provides Views into application's data
- Client area contents are managed by the application code

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### Windows: GUI Concept (cont.)

- \* May logically or physically possess a menubar
- \* Optional window border decorations:
  - Title bar offers a grab handle for identifying and moving a window
  - Border scrollbars support the viewport model
  - Resize, iconize, and close border controls

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### Windows vs Dialogs

### \* Windows

- Can be drawn in
- Get mouse events
- May contain custom controls and text edit objects
- Programmer can dynamically add and remove controls

### \* Dialogs

- Provide a modality attribute
- Provide keyboard navigation
- May always appear in front (platform-specific)

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# Windows: Window Types XVT\_DrawableContainer XVT\_ChildBase XVT\_ChildWin XVT\_MenuWin XVT\_DetachedWin XVT\_TopLevelWin Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development Slide 8

### Windows: Creating Top-Level Windows

- Derive from XVT\_TopLevelWin or XVT\_DetachedWin
- \* Window Styles
  - Document Style supports border decorations
  - Double Border
  - Single (Plain) Border
- XVT-Design++ generates code to instantiate windows from a static resource definition (URL)
- Dynamically create windows by programmatically instantiating your own derived classes

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### Windows: Window Attributes

- \* Attributes for all top-level windows:
  - Parent class
  - Type (document, plain, double border)
  - Initial size and location
  - Title
  - · Visibility and "enabledness"
  - Menubar
- \* Document-style window attributes
  - Sizable
  - Close box
  - Horizontal and/or vertical border scrollbars
  - Iconizable / iconized / maximized

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### Course Example -Database Window Layout and Connections

- \* System requirements
  - · Window with controls to display database status
  - Window's with push buttons to manage database access
- Window and controls layout and attributes
  - Task menubar
  - Control justification
- \* Connections
  - Application CREATE event and Database window
  - Push button ACTION events stub out

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# <u>Course Example</u>: Creating the "Database Window"

Databases

Databases: Employee Database

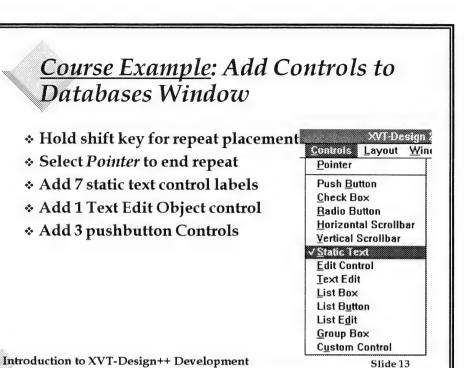
Status: Opened

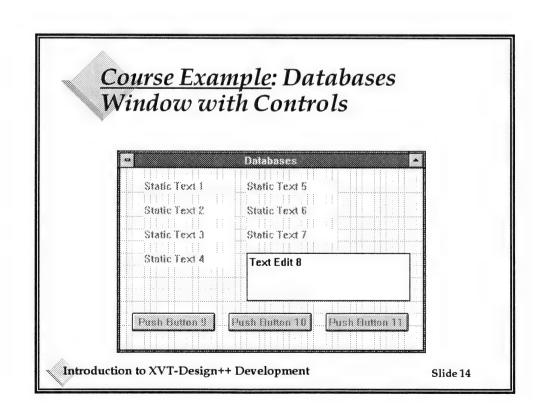
# of Records: 5

Description: This database holds all Employee Information.

Access Browse... Disconnect

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### <u>Course Example</u>: Setting Control Attributes

- \* 4 static text controls will be labels (right justify)
  - Database:
  - Status:
  - # of Records:
  - Description:
- \* 3 static text controls will be empty labels
- Application will set titles for empty static text labels at runtime

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### <u>Course Example</u>: Setting Control Attributes

- \* 4 static text controls will be labels (right justify)
  - Database:
  - Status:
  - # of Records:
  - Description:
- \* 3 static text controls will be empty labels
- \* Application will set titles for empty static text labels at runtime

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# <u>Course Example</u>: Setting Control Attributes (Cont.)

- Set #define names for empty static text labels
  - DBW\_DATABASES\_ST
  - DBW\_STATUS\_ST
  - DBW\_NUMRECORDS\_ST
- Set #define name for text edit object

Title #define

DBW\_DESC\_TE

Set #define names and titles for 3 pushbuttons

Title #define

DBW\_ACCESS\_PB

Access Browse...

DBW\_BROWSE\_PB

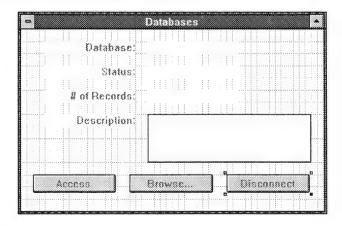
Disconnect

DBW\_DISCONNECT\_PB

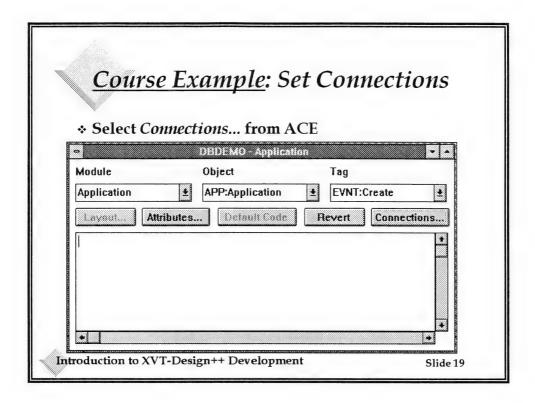
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### <u>Course Example</u>: Databases Window After Changing Control Attributes



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# Course Example: Setting Connections (cont.)

- Want to set a connection to create the Databases window at application startup
- ACE settings
  - Module=Application, Object=Application, Tag=Create
  - Select Connections... pushbutton
  - Means: during application creation, set a connection
- Want to create the user defined Databases window object

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# Course Example: Setting Connections (cont.)

- Want to set a connection to create the Databases window at application startup
- \* ACE settings
  - Module=Application, Object=Application, Tag=Create
  - Select Connections... pushbutton
  - Means: during application creation, set a connection
- Want to create the user defined Database window object

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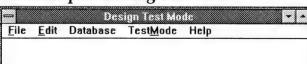
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# <u>Course Example</u>:Running TestMode

\* Select from Tools menu



Class example running TestMode



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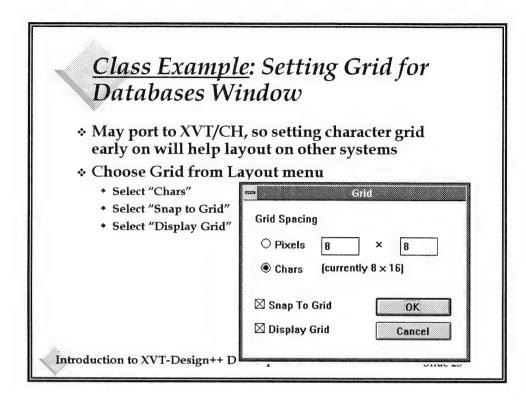
# <u>Course Example</u>: Creating the "Databases Window" (Cont.)

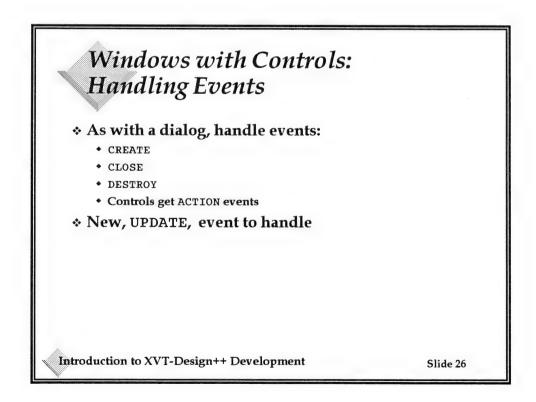
- \* Select "New Window" from the Windows menu
  - This places a newly created window on the screen
- ❖ Set the window title and the #define name
  - Double Click on window, or select Window 101 from Modules list and select Attributes
  - Set Title field to "Databases"
  - Set #define field to "DB\_WIN"
  - Size to taste using resize handles

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### Course Example: Window Attributes Dialog Change Window Attributes Class Title Databases #define DB WIN ● Document ○ Double ○ Plain Border Menubar... ☐ Invisible ☐ Iconizable ☐ Size Box ☐ Disabled ☐ Iconized ☐ Vert Scrollbar ☐ Close Box ☐ Maximized ☐ Horz Scrollbar Width 66 423 OK 350 Height 273 Cancel Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development Slide 24





# Windows with Controls: Handling CREATE Events

- \* The first event received by the window
- \* Notification that the window has been created
- \* No arguments are passed
- Control objects instantiated in code generated by XVT-Design++
- \* You write code to initialize state of controls
  - Check boxes, radio buttons, list selections, edit fields

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### Windows with Controls: Handling DESTROY Events

- \* The last event received by a window
- \* Notification that the window has been closed
- \* No arguments are passed
- \* Control objects automatically deleted
- You free any memory or resources used by your code

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# Windows with Controls: Handling CLOSE Events

- \* Request by user to close the window
- \* No arguments are passed
- \* Default code generated by XVT-Design++ calls
  XVT\_DrawableContainer::Close()
- You decide whether Close() should check for work not saved
  - Most native applications do not

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### Windows with Controls: Handling UPDATE Events

- Request to update the graphical contents of a window's client area
  - If controls only, no graphical output
  - Controls are drawn (and updated) by XVT++ or native WS
  - · Default code is sufficient
- \* Default code generated by XVT-Design++ calls
  XVT\_DrawableContainer::Clear()

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### Window Special Tags

- \* CLASS DECL place to declare data and functions
- CLASS HEADER place to add #include's to .h file
- \* TOP place to add declarations, constants, etc.
- ❖ BOTTOM place to define member functions
- \* CONSTRUCTOR place to add code to constructor
- \* DESTRUCTOR place to add code to destructor

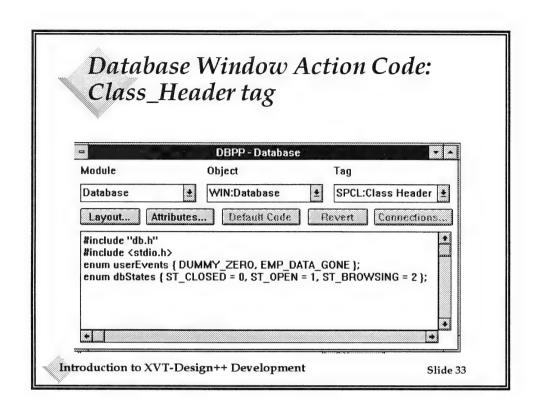
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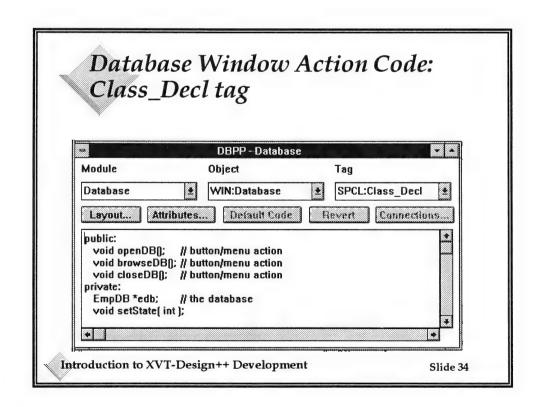
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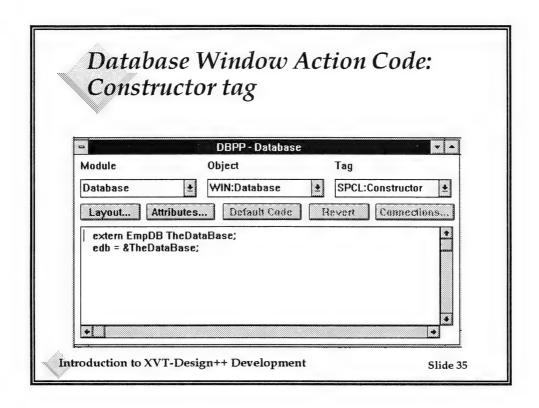
### Course Example -Window Action Code

- \* Action code associated with special tags
  - CLASS HEADER #include's and enums
  - CLASS DECL instance data and member functions
  - CONSTRUCTOR store's database identifier

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# Windows: Member Function Summary \* BOOLEAN Init( long rid ) \* BOOLEAN Init( WIN\_TYPE wtype, XVT\_Rct boundary, ...) \* virtual WIN\_TYPE GetType() const \* virtual XVT\_Base\* GetParent() const \* XVT\_Menu\* GetMenu() \* XVT\_Menu\* SetMenu( XVT\_Menu\* menu ) \* BOOLEAN GetTitle( char\* buffer, unsigned long\* len ) const \* void SetTitle( const char\* str ) \* void SetDocTitle( const char\* str ) \* void Clear( XVT\_Color color ) \* void Close() Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development Slide 36

# Windows: Member Function Summary

- void MakeFront()
- \* BOOLEAN GetEnabledState() const
- void SetEnabledState( BOOLEAN state )
- \* BOOLEAN GetVisibleState() const
- void SetVisibleState( BOOLEAN state )
- void SetEventMask( EVENT\_MASK mask )
- void SetInnerRect( XVT\_Rct boundary )
- virtual XVT\_Rct GetInnerRect() const
- virtual XVT\_Rct GetOuterRect() const

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# Windows with Controls: Member Function Summary

- virtual void e\_create()
- virtual void e\_close()
- \* virtual void e\_destroy()
- virtual void e\_update( XVT\_Rct boundary )
- \* XVT\_Control\* GetCtl( long cid )
- \* XVT\_Control\* GetFirstCtl()
- \* XVT\_Control\* GetNextCtl()
- \* XVT\_TextEdit\* GetTextEdit( long id )
- \$ XVT\_TextEdit\* GetActiveTextEdit()

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### **Graphical Output Windows**

- Coordinate systems
- \* Types of graphical output
- \* Two styles of graphical output windows
  - Viewport
  - Scaled-to-fit
- New event types to handle
  - SIZE, UPDATE, FONT, and SCROLL
  - No consideration of input events (MOUSE\_\*) yet
- \* Portability considerations

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# Graphical Output: Coordinate Systems

- Drawing coordinates specified in units of pixels
  - Origin at upper left corner
- Global physical coordinate system defined by XVT\_ScreenWin
- \* Every window has its own physical coordinate system
- Your application will use its own logical coordinate system
  - You define coordinate transformations from logical to physical
- \* XVT\_GlobalAPI::TranslatePoints() translates from one window's coordinates to another window's

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### Graphical Output: Types of Output

- \* Text
  - Variety of font families, font styles, point sizes
- \* Lines
  - Line style, color, thickness, arrow heads
  - Polylines and arcs
- Closed shapes
  - Border style, fill style
  - Regular shapes ovals, rectangles,
  - Irregular shapes polygons, pie shapes
- \* Icons
- \* Pictures collections of output operations

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# Graphical Output Windows - Viewport Model

- Scrollbars allow moving viewport on larger virtual page
  - Examples word processor and layout programs
- Application must maintain a concept of viewport origin
  - Client area upper-left versus virtual page upper-left
  - Example character in upper left corner is actually line 217, column 43 of the document
- \* You calculate how much is visible versus the size of the virtual page

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### Graphical Output Windows - Scaled-to-Fit Model

- Drawing, and possibly text, is scaled to fit in the client area
  - Charts and graphs
- \* Coordinate transformations required
  - The mapping changes each time the window size changes

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# Graphical Output Windows: Handling SIZE Events

- \* Notification of the size of a window's client area
  - · Argument provides rectangle with new height and width
- Size notification is delivered to the window:
  - When the window is created initial size
  - Whenever the user resizes the window
  - · When border scrollbars appear or disappear
- ❖ No default code generated by XVT-Design++
- \* You add code to:
  - Viewport model: Re-calculate and set scrollbar proportions
  - Scaled-to-fit model: Change your coordinate mapping, possibly recalculate point sizes for fonts, force a redraw of the entire window using XVT\_BaseDrawProto::Invalidate()

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### Graphical Output Windows: Handling UPDATE Events

- \* Notification of "damage" to a window's client area
  - Argument provides rectangle bounding the damaged region
- \* Update notification is delivered to the window:
  - When the window is created draw initial contents
  - Whenever the window's contents have been damaged physically or logically
  - You can induce UPDATE events by calling Invalidate() when the Model changes
- Be prepared to redraw any window's contents at any time

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# Graphical Output Windows: Handling UPDATE Events (cont.)

- Default XVT-Design++ generated code calls Clear()
  - Erases damaged area
- \* You add code to draw your graphical output
  - Viewport model: Optimize your drawing algorithm to only draw in viewport
  - Temporary clipping region may be in effect
  - Additional optimization possible using XVT\_BaseDrawProto::NeedsUpdate()
- Only do drawing in response to UPDATE events
  - Many XVT function calls are illegal during update processing due to constraints of native platforms
  - Illegal calls may be suppressed via SetAttrValue() and ATTR\_SUPPRESS\_UPDATE\_CHECK

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# Graphical Output Windows: Handling FONT Events

- Request to change the font used to draw text in a window's client area
  - Arguments provide portable font data structure and indication of which font characteristic changed
- ❖ Default code generated by XVT-Design++:
  - Installs new font into the drawing protocol with XVT\_BaseDrawProto::SetFont()
  - Updates the font menu with XVT\_MenuWin::SetFontMenu()
  - Forces an UPDATE to redraw using the new font with XVT\_DrawableContainer::Invalidate()
- \* Window uses single font or multiple fonts?
  - Multiple fonts require more complex data structures

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### Viewport Windows: Handling Window Scrollbar Events

- Notification that window border scrollbar was operated by user
  - Different member functions for vertical and horizontal scrollbar
- Argument indicates which part of the scrollbar was operated
  - Line Up, Line Down, Page Up, Page Down, Thumb, Thumb Track
  - Interpretation of "line" and "page" is application-dependent

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# Viewport Windows: Handling Window Scrollbar Events (cont.)

- \* Thumb manipulation also provides the new position within the scrollbar range
- \* You write code to scroll window contents and position the thumb using:
  - XVT\_DrawableContainer::Scroll()
  - XVT\_ChildBase::SetScrollPosition()

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# Graphical Output Windows: Portability Considerations

- Resolution (number of pixels per inch) varies across screens
- Aspect ratio pixels aren't necessarily square
  - Take into account when drawing shapes
- Attributes provide resolution and aspect ratio information
  - \* XVT\_GlobalAPI::GetAttrValue()
  - Attributes ATTR\_SCREEN\_HRES, ATTR\_SCREEN\_VRES, ATTR\_SCREEN\_HEIGHT, ATTR\_SCREEN\_WIDTH
  - · Available for screen windows and print windows

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# Graphical Output Windows: Member Function Summary

- virtual void e\_font( XVT\_Font font, FONT\_PART part )
- virtual void e\_size( XVT\_Rct boundary )
- virtual void e\_update( XVT\_Rct boundary )
- \* virtual void e\_hscroll( SCROLL\_CONTROL activity, long
  pos )
- \* virtual void e\_vscroll( SCROLL\_CONTROL activity, long
  pos )
- void SetFontMenu( XVT\_Font font )
- void Invalidate( XVT\_Rct boundary )
- void Clear( XVT\_Color color )

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### Graphical Output Windows: Member Function Summary

- \* void Scroll( XVT\_Rct boundary, long dh, long dv )
- \* long GetScrollPosition( SCROLL\_TYPE scroll\_type )
   const
- \* void SetScrollPosition( SCROLL\_TYPE scroll\_type, long position )
- \* void SetScrollProportion( SCROLL\_TYPE scroll\_type, long proportion )
- \* long GetScrollRange( SCROLL\_TYPE scroll\_type, long\*
  min, long\* max ) const
- \* void SetScrollRange( SCROLL\_TYPE scroll\_type, long min, long max, long pos )

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# Course Example - Graphics Requirements

- \* Where are graphics needed?
  - To display salary history information
- \* What kinds of graphics?
  - Lines or filled rectangles to graph or chart data
  - Lines for axes
  - Text labels

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### <u>Course Example:</u> Graphical Window **Change Window Attributes** Class Title Salary History ž ChartWin #define WIN\_103 Border Menubar... ☐ Invisible 🗌 Iconizable Size Box ☐ Disabled ☐ lconized ☐ Vert Scrollbar ☐ Close Box ☐ Maximized ☐ Horz Scrollbar Width OK 320 Height 280 152 Cancel Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development Slide 54

### Graphical Output: GUI Concepts

- Everything displayed in a window is graphical (except for controls)
- Drawing primitives used to display lines, shapes and text
- Graphical attributes determine graphics appearance
  - Line styles, fill colors, drawing modes, font styles, etc.
- \* Graphical output clipped to window's client area
  - Additional clipping rectangle may be set
- Application must remember window contents and redraw on each UPDATE

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### Graphical Output: Drawing Primitives

\* Graphics shapes are drawn using the XVT BaseDrawProto member functions:

DrawALine()
DrawIcon()
DrawUcon()
DrawOval()
DrawPolygon()
DrawPolyline()
DrawRect()
DrawRoundedRect()

\* Reminder: Graphics are always drawn using the window's current drawing attributes

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### Graphical Output: Drawing Primitives (cont.)

- \* Text is drawn using the member function
  XVT BaseDrawProto::DrawText()
  - An XVT\_Pnt argument defines the baseline on which the text will be drawn
- A collection of graphical primitives may be re-drawn using the member function XVT\_BaseDrawProto::DrawPicture()

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# Graphical Output: Points and Rectangles

- Drawing primitives take XVT\_Pnt or XVT\_Rct objects as arguments
- Many styles of constructors defined
  - XVT\_Pnt::XVT\_Pnt(short x=0, short y=0)
  - XVT\_Rct::XVT\_Rct(XVT\_Pnt top\_left, XVT\_Pnt bottom\_right)
  - XVT\_Rct::XVT\_Rct(long top, long left, long bottom, long right), etc.
- Many operators defined for combining points, rectangles and offsets
- Member functions provide access to coordinates
  - \* XVT\_Pnt::GetX(), XVT\_Pnt::GetY()
  - XVT\_Rct::GetTopLeft(), XVT\_Rct::GetBottomRight(), etc.

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# Graphical Output: Points and Rectangles (cont.)

\* Other operations on points and rectangles

```
XVT_Rct::IsEmpty()
XVT_Rct::Contains( XVT_Pnt point )
XVT_Rct::Contains( XVT_Rct rectangle )
XVT_Rct::Intersect( XVT_Rct& boundary,
    XVT_Rct *intersection )
```

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### Graphical Output: Drawing Attributes

- Window classes derived from XVT\_DrawableContainer inherita XVT\_BaseDrawProto\* DrawProtocol
- DrawProtocol maintains a set of drawing tools for the window
  - · Pens used to draw lines and the borders of closed shapes
  - Brushes used to fill the interior of closed shapes
  - Drawing Modes determines how drawn pixels are combined with pixels already on the screen
  - Fonts consist of a family, style, and size
  - · Color of the pen, brush, foreground and background
- DrawProtocol maintains a clipping region
  - Drawing operations may be clipped to a sub-region of the client area

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### Graphical Output: Pens

- \* A pen is used to draw lines and the borders of closed shapes
- \* Represented by the class XVT\_Pen
- \* Pen attributes
  - Width in pixels
  - Pattern Solid, Hollow or Rubber
  - Style Solid, Dotted or Dashed
  - Color
- \* Default attributes are set for you
  - 1 -pixel wide solid black pen

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### **Graphical Output: Brushes**

- A brush is used to fill the interior of closed shapes
- Represented by the class XVT\_Brush
- \* Brush attributes
  - Pattern Solid, Hollow, variety of hatch patterns
  - · Color of solid area or of hatch lines
- \* Default attributes
  - Solid white brush

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#### **Graphical Output: Drawing Modes**

- Drawing mode determines how drawn pixels combine with pixels already on the screen
  - M\_COPY, M\_OR, M\_XOR, etc...
- \* M\_COPY is the default mode
- ❖ M\_XOR combines pixels using these rules:
  - Drawing a shape once with the M\_XOR mode will allow you to see the shape if at all possible
  - Drawing the same shape again with the M\_XOR mode is guaranteed to leave the window as it was before the first drawing operation

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#### **Graphical Output: Fonts**

- DrawText() uses the current font to render the text segment given to it
- Represented by the class XVT\_Font
- \* Font attributes
  - Family FF\_SYSTEM, FF\_FIXED, FF\_TIMES, FF\_HELVETICA
  - Style FS\_BOLD, FS\_ITALIC
  - Size short integer point size
- Default attributes are set for you, based on the platform's recommended system font
- \* Change the font before drawing by calling XVT\_BaseDrawProto::SetFont()

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#### Graphical Output: Font Mapper

- You request a font object with the constructor XVT\_Font::XVT\_Font(long family, long style, short size)
- That exact font object may not be available on this platform
- \* A font object with the closest attribute match is provided

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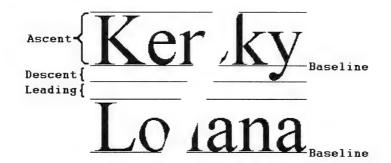
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#### **Graphical Output: Font Metrics**

- Font Metrics
  - Ascent distance from baseline to top of tallest character
  - Descent distance from baseline to bottom of descenders
  - Leading recommended interline spacing
- Attributes differ for each font
- Query the current attributes with
   XVT\_BaseDrawProto::GetFontMetrics()
- Use font metrics for calculating line spacing in text output windows

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#### **Font Metrics**



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#### Graphical Output: Color

- Colors are specified for the pen, brush, foreground and background
  - Previous slides discussed pen and brush colors
  - Foreground color is used for drawn text
  - Background color is used for spaces around text and for the spaces between the brush pattern lines
- Represented by the class XVT\_Color
- 11 Predefined colors for the constructor

XVT\_Color( COLOR )

COLOR\_RED
COLOR\_CYAN
COLOR\_BLACK

COLOR\_GREEN
COLOR\_MAGENTA
COLOR\_DKGRAY

COLOR\_BLUE COLOR\_YELLOW COLOR\_GRAY

COLOR\_LTGRAY COLOR\_WHITE

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#### Graphical Output: Color (cont.)

- \* XVT++ uses a 24 bit RGB color model

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#### Graphical Output: Clipping Rectangle

- UPDATE event maintains a notion of the damaged region
  - Drawing operations during UPDATE processing will be clipped to that region
- \* An additional clipping rectangle can be set with XVT\_BaseDrawProto::SetClip()
  - Drawing during UPDATE processing will be clipped to the intersection of the two rectangles
  - Drawing operations at other times are clipped to DrawProtocol's clipping rectangle only
- \* Clipping can be turned on and off with XVT\_BaseDrawProto::SetClipState()

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#### Graphical Output: XVT++ Pictures

- \* A picture encapsulates a series of drawing operations into a single object
  - Operations include tool changes, drawing shapes, and text output
- \* Represented by the class XVT\_Picture
- \* Pictures can be
  - Displayed in a window
  - · Put on the clipboard
  - Saved to or retrieved from a file

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# Adding Input and Direct Manipulation

- \* New event types to handle
  - FOCUS, CHAR and MOUSE\_\* events
- \* Additional support for text input
  - Carets show insertion point
- Mouse-related abstractions
  - Cursors
  - Trapping the mouse
- **❖ Drawing outside context of the UPDATE event**

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## Direct Manipulation Windows: Handling FOCUS Events

- Notification that the window has gained or lost keyboard focus
  - Argument is TRUE if the window is gaining focus and FALSE if it is losing focus
  - Only one container may have keyboard focus on the entire desktop
- \* Typical response to FOCUS events:
  - Check the clipboard for data availability (if needed)
  - · Show graphical selections to be either highlighted or normal
- \* Activation events (argument TRUE) are guaranteed to be paired with deactivation events

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## Direct Manipulation Windows: Handling CHAR Events

- Notification that the user hit a key on the keyboard
  - Containers can only receive character events if they have focus
  - · Keyboard input may be intercepted by controls
  - Menu accelerators do not come through as keyboard events
  - · Function keys are represented by virtual key codes
- Arguments define the character, or key-chord, typed
- \* You write code to respond to the key press
  - Update internal data structures
  - May also immediately draw the character on the display

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## Direct Manipulation Windows: Handling MOUSE\_\* Events

- Notification that a mouse button was pressed, released, or that the mouse was moved
- \* Arguments supply:
  - Mouse button number
  - The mouse position
  - Keyboard modifiers (shift and control key flags)
- Mouse buttons 0 and 1 supported across all platforms

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## Direct Manipulation Windows: Handling MOUSE\_\* Events (cont.)

- \* MOUSE\_DOWN the user pressed a mouse button
- \* MOUSE\_UP the user released the button
  - A click is two events: MOUSE\_DOWN followed by MOUSE\_UP
  - A MOUSE\_UP occurs only if the user releases the button over the same window
- \* MOUSE\_DBL a button was pressed twice rapidly
  - Event stream: MOUSE\_DOWN, MOUSE\_UP, MOUSE\_DBL, MOUSE\_UP
- \* MOUSE\_MOVE the user moved the mouse, regardless of whether a button is down or up

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## Direct Manipulation Windows: Handling MOUSE\_\* Events (cont.)

- \* MOUSE\_DOWN
  - Save location of click
  - Perform hit test to locate selection point or object
  - Set application flag for possible drag operation
- \* MOUSE\_MOVE
  - Extend selection
  - Drag object
  - Auto-scroll window contents

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## Direct Manipulation Windows: Handling MOUSE\_\* Events (cont.)

- \* MOUSE\_UP
  - End selection
  - Activate Cut, Copy, Clear menu items
  - Perform hit test to determine drop location
  - Clear application flag for possible drag operation
- \* MOUSE\_DBL
  - Extend the semantic of a single click (select entire word, select object, open, etc)

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## Direct Manipulation Windows: Carets

- Text input requires a visual indication of where the next character will be placed
- \* You write code to
  - Make the caret visible or invisible with XVT\_ChildBase::SetCaretState()
  - Echo each character after it is typed
  - Reposition the caret with XVT\_ChildBase::SetCaretPos()
- You may optionally want to change the dimensions of the caret
- \* XVT\_TextEdit objects handle this for you

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## Direct Manipulation Windows: Cursors

- Mouse input requires a visual indication of where the mouse is currently pointing
- \* XVT++ defines several cursor styles
  - Arrow, I-Beam, cross-hair, plus sign, waiting
  - · Arbitrary user cursors can also be defined
- ❖ Each XVT++ window can have its own cursor
  - Default cursor is an arrow cursor
- You write code to change the default cursor style for any window with

XVT\_ChildBase::SetCursor()

• Each window remembers it's own cursor setting

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# Direct Manipulation Windows: Trapping the Mouse

- Mouse trapping logically sends mouse events to a window, even if the mouse cursor leaves the window
  - Make sure you see a MOUSE\_UP
  - Required for dragging operations
- While trapped, a continuous stream of MOUSE\_MOVE events is generated
  - Useful for implementing autoscrolling of text and graphics
- \* Cursor does not change while mouse is trapped

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## Direct Manipulation Windows: Drawing Without an UPDATE Event

- In a few cases, waiting for an UPDATE event is too slow
  - Character input display
  - Mouse selections
  - · Dragging and rubberbanding
  - Autoscrolling
  - Animation
- Draw immediately, but make sure data structures are consistent so UPDATE events can still be handled

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## Direct Manipulation Windows: Member Function Summary

- virtual void e\_focus( BOOLEAN active )
- \* virtual void e\_char( short chr, BOOLEAN shift, BOOLEAN control )
- \* virtual void e\_mouse\_dbl( XVT\_Pnt point, BOOLEAN
  shift, BOOLEAN control, short button )
- \* virtual void e\_mouse\_down( XVT\_Pnt point, BOOLEAN shift, BOOLEAN control, short button )
- \* virtual void e\_mouse\_move( XVT\_Pnt point, BOOLEAN
  shift, BOOLEAN control, short button )
- \* virtual void e\_mouse\_up( XVT\_Pnt point, BOOLEAN
  shift, BOOLEAN control, short button )

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# Direct Manipulation Windows: Member Function Summary

- \$ XVT\_Pnt GetCaretPos() const
- void SetCaretPos( XVT\_Pnt point )
- \* BOOLEAN GetCaretState() const
- void SetCaretState( BOOLEAN state )
- void SetCaretDimensions( XVT\_Pnt vector )
- \* void SetCursor( CURSOR cursor )
- void TrapMouse()
- void ReleaseMouse()

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#### **Using Window Classes**

- \* Application-specific windows
  - A specialization of an XVT++ window class
- You define the class and member functions in a separate file
  - Best to use generated code as the starting point
- \* Window class name in the Attributes... dialog is used to derive the file name

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#### **Using Window Classes (cont.)**

- The Course Example uses a window class to display bar charts
- It wasn't necessary to use a window class, but we wanted to demonstrate the concept

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#### Windows: Additional Event Tags

- \* TIMER notification that the window's timer expired, the XVT\_Timer is an argument
- USER used to implement your own protocols between different GUI objects

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#### **Creating Child Windows**

- Derive from XVT\_ChildWin
- \* Window Styles
  - Single (Plain) Border may have scrollbars
  - No Border
- \* XVT-Design++ generates code to instantiate custom controls
- Dynamically create child windows by entering action code to instantiate your own derived classes

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## Child Windows: Member Function Summary

- virtual XVT\_Base\* GetParent() const
- \* XVT\_ChildBase\* GetFirstWin()
- \$ XVT\_ChildBase\* GetNextWin()

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#### Windows: Summary

- There are top-level and child windows
- Windows logically or physically possess a menubar
- UPDATE events are application critical
- Window use
  - Controls only, graphical output, or direct manipulation
  - Translates into different sets of events being relevant
- Window classing can be a useful extension to XVT-Design++

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#### **Graphics:** Summary

- Window contents are drawn (with the exception of controls)
- \* The XVT\_BaseDrawProto member functions provide the graphics primitives
- Graphics attributes include pens, brushes, drawing modes, colors and fonts
- \* Both global and local coordinate systems are used
- Pixel resolution and aspect ratio are screen dependent

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

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### Section 6

# Completing an XVT-Design++ Application

Introduction to XVT-Design++ Development

Slide 1

#### What This Section Covers

- \* Additional Event Details
- \* Text Edit Objects
- Providing Clipboard Access
- Printing
- \* File Handling
- Error Handling and Debugging
- \* Memory Management

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#### What This Section Covers (cont.)

- \* Help System
- \* System Attribute Table
- Writing Non-Portable Code
- \* Application Generation
- \* Application Building and Running
- \* Commencement

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Slide 3

## Additional Event Details: Handling USER Events

- For message passing from one GUI object to another
- Invoke the e\_user( long id, void \*data) member function of the object you want to send a message to
  - Distinguish different message types by long id
  - Provide arbitrary message data with void \*data

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## Additional Event Details: Handling TIMER Events

- Notification that an interval timer for a container has gone off
  - Timers may be associated with all container types
- \* Timers are represented by the class XVT\_Timer
  - Constructor takes container object and interval in milliseconds
- Timers are created with the new operator and cancelled with the delete operator

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Slide 5

# Additional Event Details: Handling TIMER Events (cont.)

- ❖ XVT++ guarantees at least one timer will be available
  - The maximum number available to an application on a platform is available from System Attributes
- \* Minimum timer intervals are platform-specific
  - 50 milliseconds is cross-platform minimum
- \* Applications of interval timers
  - Connection or window timeouts
  - Input device polling
  - Timed demos
  - Crude animation
  - Interval timers do not provide great precision!

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## Additional Event Details: Simulated Multitasking

- \* Remember?
  - Application processes event, then gives control back to windowing system
  - If applications can not process events in a timely fashion, application responsiveness degrades
- In certain cases, CPU- or disk-intensive operations are inevitable
- \* Two choices to provide a responsive GUI:
  - Perform the operation as a state machine, using an interval timer to signal when it is time to start the next part of the operation
  - Call XVT\_GlobalAPI::ProcessEvents() to pass control to the window system to process any queued events during the operation

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Slide 7

# Additional Event Details: Event Masking

- All windows and dialogs have an associated event mask
  - A 32-bit set of flags, one per event type
- Each event (eg CHAR) has a corresponding mask constant (eg EM\_CHAR)
  - Special event mask values EM\_NONE (no events) and EM\_ALL (all events) are also provided
- An event handler member function is called for a GUI object only if its bit is turned on within the current mask

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## Additional Event Details: Event Masking (cont.)

- Event masks are set to EM\_ALL by Init()
- Use GetEventMask() to retrieve the current mask
- Use SetEventMask() to change the current mask
- An event mask may be constructed by OR'ing the event constants (eg, EM\_CHAR | EM\_SIZE)

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Slide 9

#### Text Edit Objects

- \* Text edit objects are a special type of control
  - Multi-line, single-font controls for text editing
  - Different from native edit field controls
- Represented by the class XVT\_TextEdit
- Important restriction: can only be used within windows
- Text edit objects are defined just like controls via XVT-Design++, and are automatically created and destroyed by their container window

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#### Text Edit Objects (cont.)

- A text edit object provides a viewport into a larger virtual page of text
  - Text is divided into paragraphs, each terminated by a carriage return
  - Each paragraph can appear as one or more lines of text
- \* Viewport window operations are handled for you
  - Tracking the origin and autoscrolling the viewport
  - Positioning of the caret
  - Keyboard input both printable characters and function keys
  - Mouse Selections
  - Edit and Font Menu operations

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#### Text Edit Objects (cont.)

- Text edit object attributes you can set with XVT-Design++ determine whether:
  - The viewport scrolls automatically when the user moves the insertion point outside of the view rectangle
  - · A border is drawn around the object
  - Edit menu options Cut, Copy, and Paste are supported
  - Single or multiple paragraphs
  - An input character limit exists on single paragraph objects
  - The text can be edited or is read-only
  - Text is automatically word-wrapped at a margin
  - Insert or overtype mode

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#### Text Edit Objects (cont.)

- \* Programmatically, an application can:
  - Insert and manipulate text
  - Retrieve any text by paragraph, line and character position
  - Set text, border and background colors
  - · Set the font used to display the text
  - · Modify any of the attributes
- See the XVT\_TextEdit member functions for more details

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Slide 13

#### **Providing Clipboard Access**

- Allows information to be passed between applications
- The XVT\_ClipBoard class represents the system clipboard
  - Really a module only one instance of the XVT\_ClipBoard class exists
  - Open() and Close() member functions limit access to shared system resource
- Default Edit Menu options provide user access to the clipboard
  - Enable Cut and Copy if the user has selected something that can be put onto the clipboard
  - Enable Paste if the clipboard contains data that can be inserted

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#### Providing Clipboard Access (cont.)

- The clipboard can hold one thing at a time, in a variety of formats
- \* Clipboard formats
  - CB\_TEXT ASCII text
  - CB\_PICT encapsulated XVT-Design++ Picture data
  - CB\_APPL application-specific format (arbitrary)
- Put data into the clipboard in as many formats as makes sense
- Take data off the clipboard in the most structured format your application understands

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Slide 15

#### **Printing Concepts**

- Printing consists of drawing into a window derived from the XVT\_PrintWin class
  - XVT\_PrintWin class has an XVT\_BaseDrawProto
     \*DrawProtocol, just like XVT\_DrawableContainer
  - Window object has no physical appearance
  - Print windows have a different callback protocol than screen windows
  - Virtual member functions AnotherPage() and DrawAction() must be implemented
- Page Setup... dialogs are provided when supported by the native platforms

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#### **Printing Protocol**

- \* Use the new operator to create a print window
- \* Call the Init() member function to begin printing
- Initialize context (scaling, page number, etc.) in DrawInit()
  - Printer metrics (height, width, resolution) are available in attributes via XVT\_GlobalAPI::GetAttrValue()
- Indicate if there is another page to print when a callback is received with Another Page ()
- Draw page contents in DrawAction()
- The print window will automatically delete itself when printing is done
  - AnotherPage() returned FALSE

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#### Page Setup

- \* Each XVT\_PrintWin maintains a print record
  - Defines the destination printer and page setup
  - Internals of the data structure are platform-specific
- \* Allow the user to configure a print record
  - Call XVT\_GlobalAPI::PageSetup() when the Page Setup... menu item is selected
- \* Store print records in files with document contents
  - GetPrintRcd() gets pointer to opaque data
  - GetPrintRcdSize() gives size of the print record
  - SetPrintRcd() attaches a print record to a print window
  - ValidatePrintRcd() confirms that a print record is still valid

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#### File Handling

- \* XVT++ provides a portable interface for:
  - Obtaining a file name from the user
  - Specifying directories and file types in an abstract, portable manner
  - Handling related operations
- Use the classes XVT\_FileSpec and XVT\_Directory
  - Constructors provide ways of turning non-portable string representations into portable object representations
- XVT\_GlobalAPI functions provide portable methods for initializing these objects, and for maneuvering within the local directory structure

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#### File Handling (cont.)

- XVT\_GlobalAPI member functions for obtaining a file name from the user in an XVT\_FileSpec object
  - FL\_STATUS XVT\_GlobalAPI::OpenFile( ... )
  - FL\_STATUS XVT\_GlobalAPI::SaveFile( ... )
  - Code is automatically generated by setting a connection with XVT-Design++
- \* XVT\_GlobalAPI provides methods for creating XVT\_Directory objects portably
  - XVT\_GlobalAPI::GetDefaultDir()
  - \* XVT\_GlobalAPI::GetDir()

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#### Error Managers

- \* Chains of error handlers are maintained by the error manager for a specific type of error
  - Subclasses of XVT\_ErrorManager can be instantiated to manage a specific type of error
  - XVT++ provides two classes: XVT\_InternalErrorManager and XVT\_AllocErrorManager
- \* Use the Raise() member function of the error manager class to signal an error condition to the first error handler in the chain
- Error handler return values indicate whether the error has been handled or not

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#### Error Handlers

- Derive classes from XVT\_ErrorHandler to handle specific types of errors
  - The constructor must provide the error manager the type of error handler it belongs to
  - You must provide an implementation of the virtual function Handle()
  - XVT++ provides two classes: XVT\_InternalErrorHandler and XVT\_AllocErrorHandler - derive from these or derive from the base class to handle other types of errors
- \* Handle() returns TRUE if the error condition is resolved, or FALSE if the error manager should pass the error to the next handler in the chain
- The error manager maintains chains of error handlers for each type of error

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#### Handling User Errors

- \* Plan for user errors
  - Make them as low impact as possible
  - · Allow the user to recover
- For handling recoverable errors, set connections in XVT-Design++ to
  - XVT\_NOTE display an informational message
  - XVT\_ERROR display an error message
  - XVT\_ASK ask the user a question
- \* XVT\_GlobalAPI::Beep() can be called to produce an error tone

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#### Handling Fatal Errors

- \* When your program detects an unrecoverable error, it can put up a dialog box and terminate execution with a call to XVT\_GlobalAPI::Fatal()
- To put up this dialog without terminating you can call XVT\_GlobalAPI::Message()
- \* XVT++ reports its internal errors to you via XVT\_InternalErrorManager::Raise()
  - Usually reported for illegal usage of API functions
  - Internal error numbers and descriptions are written to the file XVTPPERR.TXT

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## Handling Memory Allocation Errors

- An error is raised by XVT\_AllocErrorManager if a new or malloc() operation fails
- Subclass XVT\_AllocErrorHandler to implement an error handling policy
  - Implement the pure virtual member function Handler ()
  - Returning TRUE indicates that the allocation should be tried again
  - Useful for implementing "rainy day memory fund" algorithms
  - Internally the XVT++ class libraries use both malloc() and new-you may need to release space on both heaps

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#### Debugging and Tracing

- \* For tracing, use XVT\_GlobalAPI::Debug() or XVT\_GlobalAPI::Debug2()
  - Debug writes trace info to a file named DEBUG
  - Debug2 implements Debug with compile/run-time on/off switches
- \* Printf-style output will work on X-based platforms
- Using Note() or Message() will change the event flow of your program

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#### Memory Management

- \* XVT++ provides a complete encapsulation layer for memory management of the "global" heap
  - Global heap memory represented by a handle (GHANDLE) which must be locked to access a pointer to the memory
  - GHANDLEs allow the OS memory manager to rearrange blocks of global memory
  - Global heap exists only on the Macintosh and MS-Windows
- \* XVT\_GlobalAPI provides member functions for
  - · Global heap memory allocation and deallocation
  - · Locking and unlocking global heap memory

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#### Help System

- A topic-oriented, two-level help message browser (Example: XVT-Design++ Help facility)
  - Topics dialog
  - Help message dialog
  - Not context-sensitive
- To display the Help Topics dialog, call XVT\_GlobalAPI::Help()
- The help system GUI is itself written in XVT
  - The Help source file is vhelp.c

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#### Help System (cont.)

- \* To supply an application with a help text file:
  - Type the help text into a file with a text editor
  - Compile this file with the CCHELP program
  - Ship the compiled help file with your application
  - Instruct the user to install it along with the application
- \* An application finds its help text in a file at run time when help is requested by the user

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#### Help System (cont.)

\* The general format for a help file is:

@topic-one

Text line one for topic one

Text line two for topic one

•••

\* Comment line

@topic-two

Text line one for topic two

Text line two for topic two

•••

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#### Help System (cont.)

- \* Formatting guidelines:
  - The order of the topics in the help source file will be the order in the topics dialog box
  - Indent a topic under another in the topics dialog box to indicate a subtopic (put a tab between the @ and the name of the subtopic)
  - No word-wrap is performed and different platforms may use fixed width or proportional fonts
- Compile your help source with CCHELP
  - A conventional command-line program
  - Produces a binary compressed form of the original ASCII help file
  - You specify input and output file names

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#### System Attribute Table

- The System Attribute Table (SAT) maintains a collection of attribute names and values
- Portable attributes, such as screen resolution and dimensions, control sizes, and system configuration parameters are available, as well as platform-specific attributes
  - A complete list of portable attributes can be found in the XVT-Design++ 2.0 Class Library Reference
  - Non-portable attributes are documented in the Platform-Specific Books

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#### System Attribute Table (cont.)

The SAT is accessed by two XVT\_GlobalAPI memberfunctions: GetAttrValue() and SetAttrValue()

long GetAttrValue (XVT\_Base\* win, long attribute); void SetAttrValue (XVT\_Base\* win, long attribute, long value);

- Some attributes are read-only (cannot be set)
- Use the NULL argument for those attributes not associated with a specific GUI object
- All attributes begin with the prefix ATTR\_
- \* Non-portable attributes begin with a platformspecific prefix (such as ATTR\_WIN\_)

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#### System Attribute Table (cont.)

\* Example of using a portable attribute:

XVY\_GlobalAPI \*gapi; dx += (int)gapi->GetAttrValue(NULL,ATTR\_DOC\_STAGGER\_HORZ);

Example of using a non-portable attribute:

#if (XVTWS == XOLWS) || (XVTWS == MTFWS) XVY\_GlobalAPI \*gapi;
gapi->SetAttrValue( NULL, ATTR\_X\_MASK\_SERVER\_EVENTS, (long)TRUE );

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#### Writing Non-Portable Code

- Use #ifdefs to protect any platform-specific code you write
- \* Preprocessor constants defined by xvtpp.h identify
  - Native Window System (ie #if XVTWS == MTFWS)
  - Operating System (ie #if XVT\_OS == XVT\_OS\_AIX)
  - Compiler (ie #if XVT\_CC == XVT\_CC\_MPW)
- \* General guidelines:
  - Build a portable interface to non-portable code
  - Use separate modules for non-portable code
  - Avoid using non-portable functionality that is critical to the application user interface - it may be a large amount of work to emulate it on other platforms

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## Non-Portable Code: Hook Functions

- \* Supply a hook function to modify keystroke processing or intercept native events
- \* Access the native event information before XVT++ processes the events
- \* The hook functions are set at run-time by using:

SetAttrValue(NULL, ATTR\_KEY\_HOOK, (long) < key\_hook > );
SetAttrValue(NULL, ATTR\_EVENT\_HOOK, (long) < event\_hook > );

where <event\_hook> and <key\_hook> are replaced by the name of the hook function supplied by the application

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#### Non-Portable Code: Hook Functions (cont.)

- \* Hook functions are completely non-portable, since they will receive platform-specific events
- \* If the supplied hook function returns FALSE, XVT++'s default function will be called as well

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#### Non-Portable Code: Native Toolkit Access

- \* XVT++'s layered API approach allows access to the native toolkit
- You need to understand the effects of native function calls on the Design++ library
  - Read the XVT-Design++ appropriate Platform-Specific Book
  - Relative expertise in native GUI programming tools required
  - Look forward to experimentation and testing
  - Remember: you may need to find analogous functionality on other target platforms

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#### **Building the Final Application**

- Generate a fresh version of your application via XVT-Design++
- \* Build and link the application
- \* Use CURL to convert URL resources to native resources, then compile the native resources
- \* make the application
- \* Test and refine as required

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#### Course Example -Summary

- Offer different strategies for using XVT C++ tools (and your existing development tools) to their best combined advantage
  - Code from within the XVT-Design++ ACE
  - Code outside of XVT-Design++
- Build more familiarity with XVT-Design++ and XVT++'s Class Library and API
- Suggestions for XVT-Design++ application structuring

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#### Course Example - Summary (cont.)

- \* Examples of specific XVT-Design+4341.5 State of a programming techniques:
  - Planning and designing an application of the first of the first of
  - Project files and system attributes
  - Using externally-defined windows, dialogs, controls, menus, and strings
  - Managing windows and dialogs (and their contained controls)
  - Window, dialog, and control attributes and property of the control of the contr
  - Prototyping with connections and TestMode
  - Using pre-defined dialogs
  - Managing events and utilizing special tags
  - Graphics drawing, drawing tools, and graphics transformations

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#### Additional Sources of Assistance

- Customer Support
  - Phone 303-443-8988 between 8 AM and 5 PM Monday-Friday
  - E-mail via Internet at techsup@xvt.com
  - E-mail via CompuServe at 75765,1233
  - E-mail via XVT BBS at 303-443-9083 (2400 baud) or 303-443-7780 (9600 baud)
  - Write to XVT Software Inc., P O Box 18750, Boulder CO 80308
- xvtdev Mailing List
- Annual XVT Developer's Conference
- \* XVT's Consulting and Training Group (CTG)
  - Offers extensive fee-based services
  - Includes training, consulting, ports, etc.
  - Phone 303-443-4223 for more information

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